FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-186
Monday
26 September 1994

NOTICE TO READERS:

Due to customer demand, FBIS plans to begin publishing statistical material from Russia and other independent states of the former Soviet Union in the FBIS Daily Report: Central Eurasia (FBIS-SOV series) as a weekly Supplement titled "Economic Review." Statistical material now appearing in the FBIS Report: Central Eurasia (FBIS-USR series), which has a smaller circulation, will temporarily be double-published in both reports through 28 September. Economic material which refers to policy issues rather than statistics will continue to be published in the FBIS-USR series, pending further review.

New customers should subscribe to the FBIS Daily Report: Central Eurasia (FBIS-SOV series) to obtain the weekly Central Eurasia Economic Review in the future. Currently Daily Report customers will receive this Supplement automatically.

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-186 26 September 1994

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: Effective 1 October, the processing indicators appearing in brackets at the start of each item in this publication will be changed. All new indicators will begin with "FBIS" to make the material more easily identifiable. Some will also indicate whether the item has been translated from the vernacular or transcribed from English.

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- Yeltsin Departs for UK, U.S. Visits *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
    - Yeltsin, Major Begin Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
    - Talks With Major Continue *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
    - Yeltsin Praises Relations With UK *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
    - Comments on Ukraine Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
- Press Service Sums Up UK Visit Results *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
- Adamishin Views Anglo-Russian Relations *[London FINANCIAL TIMES 24 Sep]* 2
- 'Cold War Breeze' Felt in U.S. Nuclear Stance *[Moscow TV]* 4
- Yeltsin on Issues To Be Discussed in U.S. *[Moscow TV]* 4
- Nuclear Issues To Be Discussed in Washington *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
- Kozyrev on Economic Relations With West *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 24 Sep]* 4
- Kozyrev Defends CIS Peacekeeping Role *[Moscow TV]* 6
- UN Secretary General Gives Dinner for Yeltsin *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
- Yeltsin Calls UN Speech 'Main Trial' of Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
    - UN Speech Previewed *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
- Arbatov on U.S. Relations, Summit *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 23 Sep]* 8
- Newspaper Sees Dangers in Washington Summit *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 24 Sep]* 10
- Kozyrev Accuses Contact Group of Inaction *[UNIAN]* 11
- 'Diplomat' Warns Against Attacks on UN Forces *[INTERFAX]* 11
- Moscow To Supply Algeria With 47 Helicopter Gunships *[INTERFAX]* 11
- Kozyrev Views 'Constructive' Kiev Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
- Foreign Economics Minister Meets Ukraine Minister *[Russian TV]* 12
- Russia 'Thoroughly' Studying UN Standing Army Proposal *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
- PRC Military Delegation Visits Transbaykal Region *[ITAR-TASS]* 12

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

- Interior Minister Yerin Rumored To Resign *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 26 Sep]* 13
- Yeltsin Orders Removal of Archive Restrictions *[ITAR-TASS]* 13
- Khasbulatov Satisfied With Moscow Meetings *[INTERFAX]* 13
    - Aides To Consider Khasbulatov's Views *[Moscow Radio]* 14
- Saratov, Shokhin on Reshuffle, Baku Oil Deal *[Moscow TV]* 14
- Pro-Reform Deputies Discuss Strategy *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 24 Sep]* 14
- Shabanov Appointed Deputy Head of Control Directorate *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
- Potential Presidential Candidates Profiled *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 22 Sep]* 15
- Complaint Issued Against Yeltsin Visit Timing *[PRAVDA 23 Sep]* 16
- Yeltsin Aide Calls for Vigilance Against Opposition *[Radio Rossii]* 16
- Opposition Looks for Allies Among 'New Russians' *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
- Skokov Rumored To Be Opposition Candidate *[INTERFAX]* 17
- Rutskoy Calls Opposition 'Political Farce' *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
- Barkashov Says Regime Gearing Up for 'Provocation' *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 23 Aug]* 17
- Communist-Sponsored Opposition Conference Reported *[SEGODNYA 24 Sep]* 18
- Official Calls for Unification of Opposition *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
- Zaveryukha, Lapshin To Form United Agrarian Movement *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
- Agrarian Leader Calls for Government Resignation *[INTERFAX]* 19

Peasants Ask Federal Assembly To Adopt Land Code *[Radio Rossii]* ... 19
Burbulis Calls for Formation of Right-of-Center Party *[INTERFAX]* ... 20
Kostikov on Forming New Social Democratic Party *[Radio Rossii]* ... 20
'United Democratic Center' Holds Founding Congress *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 20
Democrats Appeal Against Regime in Maritime Kray *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 20
Filatov Interviewed on Siege Anniversary *[Moscow Radio]* ... 21
Yakovlev on New Constitution, Democratic Process *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 21
Union of Governors Calls for Definition of Status *[INTERFAX]* ... 22
Public Chamber Meets in Kremlin *[Moscow TV]* ... 22
    Cancellation of Anticrime Decree Proposed *[INTERFAX]* ... 22
Salmin Appointed Public Political Center Chairman *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 23
Radio Moscow To Cut Broadcast Time, Languages *[Moscow International]* ... 23

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Orders New 1995-97 Economic Program *[Moscow Radio]* ... 23
Chernomyrdin Reports to Yeltsin on Sverdlovsk Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 23
Soskovets Views Economic Problems, Successes *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 22 Sep]* ... 24
    Favors Some Economic Control Measures *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 25
Shokhin Wants Lukoil Officials Punished *[Moscow Radio]* ... 26
R1 Trillion To Be Allocated for Wage Arrears *[Russian TV]* ... 26
Moscow To Focus on Attracting Private Investment *[INTERFAX]* ... 26
Bank Official Explains Ruble Fall Against Dollar *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 26
    Gaydar on Fall in Ruble Exchange Rate *[Radio Rossii]* ... 27

Military & Nuclear Issues

Topol Strategic Missile Successfully Tested *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 27
    Details of 'Topol' Missile Test Aired *[Moscow TV]* ... 27
Official on Chemical Weapons' Destruction *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 28
    Arms Destruction May Damage Ecology *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 28
Nuclear Submarine Works Brought to Standstill *[SEGODNYA 24 Sep]* ... 28
Pacific Fleet Receives New Nuclear Submarine *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 28
Yeltsin Edict on Nuclear Supervision Welcomed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Sep]* ... 28
Nuclear Power Plants May Launch Protest Actions *[INTERFAX]* ... 29
Firms Propose Alternative on Financing Military Orders *[Moscow Radio]* ... 29

Regional Affairs

Moscow Government Debates Privatization Program *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 22 Sep]* ... 29
Local Privatization May Kill Self-Government Law *[SEGODNYA 24 Sep]* ... 30
N. Novgorod Officials on Privatization Efforts *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 30
Perm Oblast To Draft Public Accord Treaty ... 31
Kemerovo Oblast Revisits Civil Accord Treaty *[IZVESTIYA 23 Sep]* ... 31
Troop Exercises in North Caucasus End *[Moscow TV]* ... 32
Troops Move To Ingushetia-North Ossetian Border *[Moscow TV]* ... 32
N. Ossetian, Ingush Presidents Sign Agreement *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 33
    Sides Agree on Refugees' Return *[INTERFAX]* ... 33
Alleged Misinformation on North Caucasus Issues *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 24 Sep]* ... 33
Kremlin Reportedly Supports Khasbulatov *[Moscow TV]* ... 34
Clan Urges Holding Congress of Chechen People *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 34
Yeltsin's 1992 Firing of Oblast Chief Invalidated *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 23 Aug]* ... 34
Chernomyrdin Tours Yekaterinburg Defense Factories *[INTERFAX]* ... 34
Experts Watch Volga MiG-23 Fighter Planes Destroyed *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 35
Far Eastern Military Air Field Duties Expanded *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 35
Sakhalin PVO Regiment Gets S-300 Missile Systems *[Sakhalin TV]* ... 35
Severodvinsk Military Plants Lose Power, Heat *[IZVESTIYA 22 Sep]* ... 36
Komi Local Official Orders Armed Guards on Crops *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Sep]* ... 36
Buryatia's Potapov Submits 2 Draft Laws *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 23 Aug]* ... 36
Drive Against Crime Nets Corrupt Policemen *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Sep]* ... 37
Voronezh Oblast Duma Curtails Chief's Powers *[SEGODNYA 24 Sep]* ... 37

Political Suppression of Local Newspaper Viewed *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 20 Sep]* 37
Flood, Diphtheria Threats to Maritime Kray *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Sep]* 38

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Russia's Kozyrev Discusses Treaty With Officials *[INTERFAX]* 40
    Kuchma Optimistic on Future Treaty *[INTERFAX]* 40
    Kuchma Thanks Yeltsin for Crimea Position *[UNIAN]* 40
    Shmarov 'Satisfied' With Accord Implementation *[ITAR-TASS]* 40
Kuchma Favors Stronger Ties With CIS *[Radio Rossii]* 41
Kuchma Discusses Relations With U.S. Delegation *[ITAR-TASS]* 41
    Delegation Views Kiev's Nuclear Security *[INTERFAX]* 41
IMF Agreement Seen as 'Watershed' for Economic Reform *[London FINANCIAL TIMES 24 Sep]* 41

National Affairs

Kuchma Addresses Local Council Heads *[ITAR-TASS]* 42
    Says Power To Be Concentrated *[Kiev International]* 42
Kuchma's Reform Bloc To Expand, Form New Party *[UNIAN]* 42
Kravchuk Elected to Supreme Council *[ITAR-TASS]* 42
Communists Want Ban on Party Activity Lifted *[UNIAR]* 43
Cholera Spreading in Nikolayev, Surrounding Areas *[ITAR-TASS]* 43
    Official Views Epidemic, Drinking Water *[DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA 22 Sep]* 43
    Fishing Banned in Affected Regions *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 23 Sep]* 45
SBU Chief on Fight Against Organized Crime *[URYADOVYY KURYER 15 Sep]* 45
Navy Calls Black Sea Fleet Statement Provocative *[UNIAN]* 47
Space Agency Director Interviewed on Plans *[KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI 21 Sep]* 48
Continuing Reportage on Crimean Government Crisis 49
    Ukrainian Parliament Adopts Resolution *[ITAR-TASS]* 49
    Kuchma Urges Bringing Legislation in Line *[INTERFAX]* 50
    Negotiations Deadlock *[Kiev International]* 50
    Delegation Head Comments on Crisis *[KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA 22 Sep]* 50
    Meshkov Supporters Urge Referendum *[UNIAN]* 51
    Saburov Confirms Intention To Resign *[INTERFAX]* 51
    RPK To Discuss Expulsion of Meshkov *[UNIAR]* 51
Russian Party of Crimea Holds Second Congress *[UNIAR]* 52
    Russian Party To Form Shadow Cabinet *[Kiev International]* 52
    Split in 'Russia' Group Reported *[UNIAR]* 52

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Border Negotiations Held With Ukraine *[Minsk Radio]* 53
Official Views Complicity in Global Policies *[NARODNAYA GAZETA 12 Sep]* 53
U.S. Team Tours Defense Conversion Facility *[Minsk Radio]* 54
Kurankow Appointed New Minister of Industry *[Minsk Radio]* 55
Energy Ministry Restricts Gas, Electricity Supplies *[Minsk Radio]* 55
Four 'Prominent' Politicians Seek Russian Citizenship *[INTERFAX]* 55
Upcoming Supreme Soviet Session Previewed *[ZVYAZDA 20 Sep]* 55
Socialist Party Leader Discusses Goals *[ZVYAZDA 20 Sep]* 56

Moldova

Justice Ministry Suspends National-Christian Party *[ITAR-TASS]* 56
Parliament Chairman Convenes Fall Session *[INTERFAX]* 57
Statistics Show Bank Employees Earn Highest Salaries *[BASAPRESS]* 57

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Meets Saudi King Fahd *[ITAR-TASS]* 58
Nazarbayev on Italian Ties, Joint Ventures *[KAZTAG]* 58
Tereshchenko, Polish Premier Sign Tax Agreement *[Almaty Radio]* 58
Legal Proceedings Authorized Against Deputies *[KAZTAG]* 58
Nazarbayev Steps Up Fight Against Corruption *[ITAR-TASS]* 59
Paper Urges End to State Benefits for Industry *[PANORAMA 10 SEP]* 59

Kyrgyzstan

Edict Announces 22 Oct Elections *[Bishkek Radio]* 60
Referendum on Constitutional Amendments Confirmed *[Bishkek Radio]* 60
Akayev Meets With Muslim, Orthodox Leaders *[Bishkek Radio]* 61
Government on Joint Stock Companies *[Bishkek Radio]* 62
Officials, Canadian Company View Mining Project *[Bishkek Radio]* 62
Exodus of Russian Migrants Decreases *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Sep]* 62

Tajikistan

Supreme Council Edict on Social, Economic Measures *[Dushanbe Radio]* 62
Rakhmonov To Give UN Speech 30 Sep *[Dushanbe Radio]* 62
Foreign Minister Olimov Meets UN Official *[Dushanbe Radio]* 63
UN Observers To Arrive for Presidential Election *[Dushanbe Radio]* 63
Government Issues Decree on Military Duty *[Dushanbe Radio]* 63

Turkmenistan

Parliamentary Elections To Be Held 11 Dec *[Ashgabat Radio]* 63
Parliament Approves Budget for 1995 *[INTERFAX]* 63
Some Natural Gas Exports Suspended *[INTERFAX]* 63
Government Support for Private Sector Promised *[INTERFAX]* 64
Russian-Language Weekly Ceases Publication *[IZVESTIYA 22 Sep]* 64

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Explosion in Uzbek Pipeline Cuts Gas Supply *[ITAR-TASS]* 65
Commission Rejects Confederation With Russia *[ITAR-TASS]* 65
President Departs for UN General Assembly *[Radio Rossii]* 65
Kazimirov on Progress of Negotiations *[SNARK]* 65
Deployment of UN Force in Karabakh 'Best Solution' *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 66
IMF Official Presents Conditions for Financial Aid *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 66
Rubber Plant's Restart Welcomed Despite Pollution *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Sep]* 67

Azerbaijan

Consortium Plans To Develop Oil, Gas Fields *[TURAN]* 67
Turkish President Demirel on Oil Deal *[Baku TV]* 67
'Scandal' Surrounding Caspian Oil Contract Continues *[Moscow Radio]* 67
Aliyev Fires National Security Minister *[Baku TV]* 68
    Further on Dismissal *[INTERFAX]* 68
    Namik Rashit Named Acting Minister *[Baku TV]* 68
Aliyev Appoints New UN Permanent Representative *[Baku TV]* 68
Islamic Development Bank Offers First Credits *[INTERFAX]* 69

Georgia

Shevardnadze on S. Ossetia Peacekeeping *[SAKINFORM]* 69
Shevardnadze on Abkhazia Policy *[ITAR-TASS]* 69
Abkhaz Takeover of Kodori Gorge Denied *[ITAR-TASS]* 69
Abkhaz Official on Talks With Shevardnadze *[SNARK]* 69
Shevardnadze Discusses Armed Forces Development *[SAKINFORM]* 70
Turkmenistan Cuts Supplies of Natural Gas *[Tbilisi Radio]* 70
Foreign Debt Totals $800 Million *[ITAR-TASS]* 70
Black Sea States Meet in Tbilisi *[ITAR-TASS]* 70

BALTIC STATES

Latvia

Ulmanis, Birkavs Take Part in UN General Assembly *[Riga Radio]* 71
Official Returns From U.S. Trip, Denies Aid Link *[BNS]* 71

Lithuania

Diplomatic Relations Established With Georgia *[INTERFAX]* 71
Russian Navy Calls Off Planned Exercises *[BNS]* 71

Yeltsin Departs for UK, U.S. Visits

LD2409084094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0650 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Sep (TASS)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who began his trip to Great Britain and the United States today, said that he is in favor of deepening Russian-American partnership, which at the moment, as he put it, has "a not very pragmatic character, at times more like a discussion. Sometimes there is a certain amount of pressure from the American side." In this regard, he observed, we must become equal and come to an arrangement with the Americans. As an example, Yeltsin cited the Western countries' reluctance to take part in resolving the conflicts in the CIS and their desire to involve Russian troops in Haiti, Rwanda, and other trouble spots.

Before takeoff at Moscow's Vnukovo-2 airport, the Russian president stated that three main sets of questions would be broached at his meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton—dealing with foreign policy, military policy, and economic issues. He went on to specify that the economic matters would concern the carrying out of joint projects on Russian territory rather than the granting of aid. Yeltsin listed the priority cooperation projects as being Sakhalin- 1, Sakhalin-2, the Pechora and West Siberian project, the refurbishment of nuclear power stations, the processing and automobile industry, aircraft manufacturing, and cooperation in space.

Yeltsin said: "Private Western investment has yet to gain momentum, although Russia is already prepared for it."

Yeltsin, Major Begin Talks

LD2409160494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1557 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Andrey Palaria and Nikolay Pakhomov]

[Text] London September 24 TASS—The informal Russian-British summit began today at the Chequers countryside residence of British Prime Minister John Major. The Russian president is currently in Great Britain on a two-day working visit.

Greeting Boris Yeltsin at the Brize Norton air base, Major described the Russian president and his wife as welcome visitors and said that the negotiations will focus on the state of and prospects for bilateral relations. It is not excluded the leaders will focus on other issues, including the European politics, Yugoslav settlement and global problems in view of Yeltsin's address to the United Nations General Assembly. Boris Yeltsin noted that the Russian and British stands coincide in many aspects and he hopes for good results of the current meeting.

In the words of the Russian president, the Russian Federation is looking forward for a visit of British Queen Elizabeth II to be held from October 17 through 20, 1994. He said that this visit will be historic.

The final news conference in Brize Norton will inform correspondents of the meeting results. Today the Russian and British leaders had a tete-a-tete meeting, Boris Yeltsin attended a dinner given on behalf of the British prime minister with participation of representatives of the British political, business and cultural communities and a ceremony of poplar planting in Chequers.

Talks With Major Continue

LD2509121194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1148 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] London September 25 TASS—Tete-a-tete talks between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and British Prime minister John Major continue at Mr Major's country residence in Chequers. Today is the second day of the Russian president's working visit to Great Britain.

The content of the talks is expected to be disclosed later on Sunday when the two leaders will give a joint news conference at the Royal Air Force base in Brize-Norton. It is known, however, that both bilateral relations and a wide scope of international problems are being discussed at today's meeting.

According to observers, the agenda of the talks is likely to include such items as ways to settle the Bosnian crisis, interaction between NATO and the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) under modern conditions, the forthcoming summit of the International Monetary Fund, and Russia's planned reform of economy for 1995.

On Sunday morning, Yeltsin is being considered personal guest of the British prime minister. In the afternoon, a dinner will be given on behalf of the British Government which guests include political and public figures and representatives of the British business community.

Yeltsin Praises Relations With UK

LD2509161194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1601 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Brize-Norton (Oxfordshire) September 25 TASS—"Never before relations between the two countries, Great Britain and Russia, between our two peoples have been as good as they are now", Russian President Boris Yeltsin told a joint news conference on the results of his visit to Great Britain.

We have discussed two dozens of issues, reaching understanding on all of them, the Russian president stressed.

"I do not think we could have had such a discussion five years ago", he said.

We managed to combine a pleasant outing with a very heavy schedule of talks. We discussed both bilateral and international issues. This was especially helpful to me ahead of my speech before the U.N. General Assembly and my visit to the United States, Yeltsin emphasised.

When asked about the proposed visit of British Queen Elizabeth to Russia, which is scheduled for October, the president said, "I have described this visit as a historic, since this visit by Queen Elizabeth to Russia implies that Russia has resolutely taken the path of democratic advance. This is the most important thing. And we will do our best for this visit to be successful", the Russian leader pledged.

Comments on Ukraine Visit

LD2509163794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1542 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Brize Norton (County of Oxfordshire) 25 Sep—Speaking at a news conference here today, Russia's President Boris Yeltsin said that his official visit to Ukraine will take place in mid- November but the date for it has not been set finally yet. Prime Viktor Chernomyrdin will set off for celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Ukraine in the next few days.

A full-scale political treaty is currently being drawn up between Russia and Ukraine which, B. Yeltsin hopes, will remove in many respects the tension in bilateral relations.

Press Service Sums Up UK Visit Results

LD2509192594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1839 GMT 25 Sep 94

[by ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—The Russian president's press service issued on Sunday a statement, summing up results of his visit to Great Britain.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin and British Prime Minister John Major met at the latter's country residence in Chequers on September 24-25.

The unofficial character of the two leaders' meeting reflected the high level of trust and mutual understanding Russia and Great Britain have reached over the past few years. In a friendly atmosphere, Yeltsin and Major had a discussion on various aspects of bilateral partnership, international cooperation, and preparations for the forthcoming official visit of Queen Elizabeth to Russia.

The two leaders also considered in detail cooperation between Russia and Great Britain within the framework of the G-8 group of countries and of NATO-Russian relations. The Russian president and British prime minister discussed the non-proliferation of mass destruction weapons, the situation in former Yugoslavia and the Baltic countries, as well as some other issues.

Yeltsin and Major pointed to the increased potential of partnership relations between the two countries, mutual understanding and fruitful cooperation in a wide range of international issues.

Adamishin Views Anglo-Russian Relations

MS2409093594 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 24 Sep 94 p XXII

[Report on interview with Anatoliy Adamishin, Russian Ambassador to London, by Anthony Robinson; in the Russian embassy in London; date not given; from the "Weekend FT" section]

[Text] Anatoliy Adamishin, Russia's new ambassador to the court of St James, slipped quietly into London last week and tackled his first task—smoothing the way for President Boris Yeltsin, who arrives today for talks with prime minister John Major.

His next job will be to ensure that all goes well next month when the Queen pays a state visit to Russia—the first British monarch ever to do so.

Relations between Britain and Russia have not been as warm or as close for decades. Adamishin, a career diplomat, who has been increasingly influential in shaping Russian foreign policy, is welcomed in London as a man who embodies the "new thinking". He has thus been much involved in Russia's efforts to reintegrate into the wider world.

Adamishin who served as ambassador to Italy and deputy foreign minister before coming to London, says this process started when Britain's former prime minister Margaret Thatcher, described Mikhail Gorbachev "as a man I can do business with." This was several months before he became the last communist ruler of the Soviet Union. However at about that time, Adamishin himself was playing an important part in reshaping Russia's relations with the rest of the world, during negotiations in a most unlikely place—Africa.

The quietly-spoken diplomat, was at the centre of the international effort in the mid-1980s to persuade the Cubans to remove their troops from Angola.

The Cuban withdrawal ended a military threat to South Africa's security and persuaded Pretoria to grant independence to Namibia. This withdrawal was thus an important condition for the eventual ending of apartheid in South Africa.

During these negotiations, Adamishin made some unlikely friends, including Pik Botha, South Africa's crusty former foreign minister.

During months of shuttle diplomacy, which took him back and forth to Luanda, Brazzaville, Windhoek, New York and other more secret places, Adamishin gained the respect and trust of some of the most influential people in western diplomacy, including Sir Robin Renwick, now UK ambassador to Washington.

"It was touch and go right to the end", Adamishin says. "The night before we were due to complete the agreement in New York the Cubans said they would not sign. I told them in that case Moscow would not sign either. But then I spelt out a whole series of negative consequences which would follow. In the morning, they signed."

Such a breakthrough would have been impossible had the veteran Soviet foreign minister Andrey Gromyko still been in charge. But shortly after Gorbachev came to power in 1985, Eduard Shevardnadze took over the foreign ministry.

"New thinking" swept through the foreign policy establishment and Adamishin, who had languished in Moscow for more than 20 years as a speech writer and increasingly influential counsellor, following his return from a six-year stint at the Rome embassy, was given a free hand to tackle an intractable problem, albeit one low on Moscow's list of priorities.

The chance to use his talents fully in Africa arrived after years of frustration for a man who passed the formative years of his career in Italy and longed for the chance to help loosen and modernise the sclerotic Soviet system.

By temperament and experience Adamishin is an unashamed "westerniser" who believes that "partnership with the west is vital for our hopes of turning Russia into a normal, economically prosperous and predictable country." Throughout Russia's history such men and such ideas have had to contend against the "Slavophiles" with their quasi-mystical belief in the uniqueness of Russia and the Slav soul and their suspicion—and even hostility—to the corrupting ideas and examples of the west.

But, in his first interview inside the sprawling white stucco embassy on Kensington Palace Gardens, Adamishin said that "western Europe has not yet made up its mind whether to embrace Russia and hold her tight in a democratic embrace—like Germany after the war or Spain and Greece—or draw the boundaries at the Baltic states and Ukraine as if Russia is really an Asian exile."

However, he speaks rather more warmly of Britain: "You have shown more understanding of our problems than some others. You helped us to join the Group of Seven and helped in other parts of the world. The UK is not a simple partner to deal with, but we consider you as a reliable, long-term partner."

He is optimistic that relations with Britain and other western countries will improve further. "Our interests coincide 80 to 90 per cent of the time and relations between Russia, western Europe and the US are moving in the right direction. But we still have to find where a balance of interests exists in the remaining 10-20 per cent of cases."

Misunderstanding and disagreement could arise from Russia's "peacekeeping" role in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) which were formerly part of the Soviet Union, and from its relationship with NATO. Moscow wants an equal partnership.

"We each need to recognise certain special interests, in our case we see the CIS as an area in which we have a special interest. We were also displeased to be faced by unilaterally taken decisions over Bosnia, although the situation in that respect is also much better now," he adds.

Adamishin was born of Russian parents in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine in 1934. This was the year in which Stalin ordered the assassination of Sergey Kirov and then used the murder as an excuse to purge political opponents. Adamishin, however, shows few of the characteristics of "Soviet man."

"I was too young to remember the purges," he says. But he is part of the generation which grew up under Stalin and then started their careers under Khruschev.

He attributes his survival as a free spirit to the influence of his grandparents, who brought him up during the war, and to a lucky break which took him into diplomacy. He was trained as a mathematician and specialised in the Italian economy. His room mate was Luigi Longo, son of the eponymous former Italian communist party leader. "Gigi was six years older than me. He became my teacher in everything from marxism to sexology," he recalls affectionately. The two men remain close friends.

The Italian connection changed his fate. "They needed Italian speakers and I was taken on by the first European department of the foreign ministry (devoted to western European affairs). I translated for Khruschev when an Italian delegation came to Moscow. I remember how Giuseppe Pella, the then Italian foreign minister, outraged Khruschev by asking whether it was true that Khruschev drank water while plying vodka liberally to his guests. Khruschev pushed his glass up to Pella's mouth and ordered him to drink. It was vodka of course."

Two years later Adamishin arrived in Rome as stazheur apprentice at the elegant palace which houses the Russian embassy, less than a mile from the Vatican on the Gianicolo hill. There followed six years as interpreter and counsellor to Ambassador Semyon Kozyrev, (no relation to the current foreign minister).

"He treated me like a son, gave me my diplomatic schooling, and protected me from the KGB snapping at my heels. Thanks to his protection I was able to violate all the rules governing the behaviour of Soviet diplomats in Italy."

Like so many foreigners, exposure to the subtle arts of Italian life and politics inevitably influenced his thinking and style. But he insists that the main formative elements were his unusual "class origins" and the influence of his grandparents.

His father, Leonid, was killed along with one million other Soviet troops, in the first Nazi encirclement of Kiev in 1941. Anatoliy was then seven years old. His mother was a modest functionary in the ministry of agriculture.

"I spent my childhood in the Ukrainian countryside looked after by my grandfather, a graduate from St Petersburg University who had voluntarily "returned to the people" to teach in the countryside, and my grandmother. She had been educated at a gentlewomen's academy by learned how to milk and grow crops."

Both, he added, were what used to be called in Czarist times raznochinits, the name given to the proud and hard working meritocracy which was not part of the hereditary aristocracy, but rose through the ranks and served the Czar with diligence and honour.

This combination of inherited grit and acquired Italian subtlety marked him out and helped him to survive 25 years at the heart of the foreign ministry interspersed by events such as the Warsaw pact invasion of Czechoslovakia and the collapse of detente after the invasion of Afghanistan and martial law in Poland. It should also serve him well as he sets out on his declared path "of doing everything in my power to make sure that Anglo-Russian relations will be confident and serene."

'Cold War Breeze' Felt in U.S. Nuclear Stance

LD2309131494 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] An unexpected report has been received from Washington today. President Bill Clinton has agreed with the recommendations of the U.S. Defense Department that it would be inappropriate to carry out major new reductions in the U.S. nuclear arsenal in the next few years.

Pentagon Chief William Perry informed journalists of this. Perry noted that the reasons for this decision were the slow rate at which Russian mass destruction weapons were being dismantled and the still remaining, although inconsiderable, danger of a regime hostile to Washington coming to power in Moscow.

A Cold War breeze can be felt blowing from this statement.

Yeltsin on Issues To Be Discussed in U.S.

LD2409140094 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Andrey Murtazin video report from Vnukovo-2 airport; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] From Great Britain the Russian president will leave for the United States. Boris Yeltsin and Bill Clinton will deliver speeches at the UN General Assembly. Prior to his departure from Moscow the president noted in a conversation with journalists that the Russian-American partnership is not at present very productive. It should become less romantic and more pragmatic. Yeltsin's expected meeting with Clinton will include three sets of issues—questions dealing with foreign policy and also military policy and economic issues.

[Begin Yeltsin recording] The set of questions dealing with economic issues will of course not mainly concern aid—we are not asking for aid now—it will concern the implementation of our joint projects, how to somehow give them a boost. This is the first thing. Second, investment in Russia. For the time being there are still some delays, hitches, red tape, which prevent private capital from the United States from being deployed so that it invests sufficiently, well, widely, in our projects in the Russian Federation. We are ready for this today. We have the legislative base. We have the projects. We have the sites. We have the raw materials. We are ready. But these projects need to be implemented—it is necessary to invest. [end recording]

Boris Yeltsin denied rumors about a possible dispatch of Russian troops to Haiti, stressing that the West is not seeking to send its peacekeeping forces to the hotbeds of tension on CIS territory.

Nuclear Issues To Be Discussed in Washington

LD2309150294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1354 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Sep —Questions of the storage, monitoring, and stocktaking of nuclear materials are expected to be discussed at the Russian-American summit, due to begin on Monday [26 September]. The delegation accompanying President Boris Yeltsin will include Nuclear Energy Minister Professor Viktor Mikhaylov, Georgiy Kaurov, head of the information directorate of the Nuclear Energy Ministry, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent today.

He also said that three more questions relating to nuclear energy may be added to the agenda. They are: the issue of openness in the sphere of nuclear weapons; the implementation of earlier agreements on nuclear disarmament, including, among other things, the issue of building a storage depot in Russia for the plutonium being extracted from ammunition; and, finally, the issue of building new power supplies to replace the plutonium reactors in Tomsk-7 and Krasnoyarsk-26 that are being taken out of operation.

Kozyrev on Economic Relations With West

MK2409112094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 24 Sep 94 pp 1, 3

[Article by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev under "Russia's Geopolitical Problems" rubric: "Dialogue With the West Needs Serious Revision"]

[Text] Continuing its coverage of Russia's geopolitical problems, KOMMERSANT-DAILY today presents the opinion of Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev which, undoubtedly, is of special interest in connection with the president's upcoming tour of Great Britain and the United States.

A rethinking of this dialogue is necessary. First, because its political framework has changed drastically. We have established really partner-like relations, and 1994 has been especially dynamic in this respect: the formation of a "political eight" in Naples; the signing of the Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation with the EC; and the establishment of official relations between Russia and the OECD. Therefore we are partners, belonging to the same circle of the world's key economic organizations. Second, Russia itself is not the same dialogue partner of the West it was two years ago or even one. The main thing is that reforms have led to the creation of a transition economy: no longer over-centralized, but one based, to a considerable extent, on market principles wherein the nonstate sector now accounts for approximately 48 percent. In spite of all the difficulties and mistakes, the destatization of the Russian economy has become irreversible. Russia has changed profoundly also on the political plane. A transfer has occurred from an unstable, crisis-ridden, development of society toward stabilization. The new Constitution, the Social Accord Pact, and the effective democratic procedures are capable of providing a firm political guarantee for the irreversibility of the changes in the economic and social spheres. Finally, Russia's role as the prime mover of economic reforms in the entire CIS has manifested itself conspicuously. The Russian market is becoming a center of gravity for all post-Soviet states. Herein lies a marked contrast with the recent past, when the advance of a particular republic toward economic prosperity was associated by its leaders primarily with its maximum distancing from Moscow.

Meanwhile both in Russia and the West, many approach the key problems of our dialogue on matters of trade and economic policy with the old yardstick. The approach by many of our Western partners—both in the sphere of trade and on the government level—is not free from notes of paternalism, a condescending attitude to our declarations that Russia should occupy a worthy place in the world economy. Moreover, if we do not agree with the semi-ultimatum proposals of our partners, and talk about the existence of specific interests, condescension quickly gives way to irritation. We are told: You do not understand the complexity of the economic situation in the West; you do not take into account the fact that the Western business community and governments protect jobs and markets. But it is somehow forgotten that the government and the business community in Russia are in exactly the same situation, even far more complicated, considering that the decline in industry here has constituted 50 percent of the early 1992 level.

Real economic interests, not great-power ambitions, are prompting Russia into external markets. If the present government does not fully reflect this in its foreign policy, in the next elections it will be swept away by rightist or leftist extremist. After which any talk about partnership with the West will simply become irrelevant. The time has come to expand creatively on the well- known principle whereby in the past two years the West has conducted dialogue with Russia on economic matters: Instead of giving a needy man a fish each day, he should be taught how to fish. We are thankful for the technical assistance and the experience transferred to us. But it is time the Russian fisherman was allowed to the shores of the world ocean.

Meanwhile it is with the utmost reluctance that we are being allowed to approach these shores. U.S. trade legislation contains such a notion as the "presumption of refusal." [prezumptsiya otkaza] It was born during the cold war and related to trade deals with potential rivals. It seems that a number of our partners in the West find it more difficult to get rid of this presumption than of hundreds of nuclear warheads and Berlin walls. Whether it be a matter of selling Tula hunting guns to the United States, or Russia's participation in creating a new dual-technology control regime, or the export of nuclear-cycle products, or access to the space services market, we come up against the "presumption of refusal." Lurking behind it is the unpreparedness of some of our partners to overcome in practice the legacy of the cold war in the world economy: to revise the trade regulation practice which took shape during the period of economic autarky and state economy in the USSR. Preserving the former status quo appears to be more convenient for some Western business circles than taking our economic relations to the advanced level that has been reached in political relations.

And the final stereotype complicating our dialogue with the West on economic matters: the fear of Russia's leading economic role in the CIS. This is persistently being seen as an attempt at economic dictate, pressure, little short of imperialism. I invite the advocates of such theories to answer the following questions: Which state of the West has expressed the readiness to replace Russia in the role of creditor of the CIS countries, and extend them $17 billion in soft credits and assistance in 1993-1994? Which state of the West has volunteered, instead of Russia, to supply in 1992-1993 more than 50 million tonnes of oil and more than 130 billion cubic meters of gas to Ukraine at prices substantially below world prices?

Russia and the West should, by joint efforts, adjust the form and content of economic dialogue to the new Russian and international realities. It is imperative to promote the formation, among Western business and political circles, of a clear understanding that Russia's economic revival is in the interests of the entire world. Our economic potential, rich resources, and scientific and technical base can become powerful stimuli for world economic growth. This is why greater access for Russian exports to the markets is in the interests not only of Russia but also the world economy.

The following priorities can be identified in the dialogue with the West in the economic sphere. On the global level, at the top of the agenda is the question of Russia's accession to GATT and subsequently the World Trade Organization. Giving Russia the status of a country with a transitional economy should substantially facilitate negotiations on our membership in these institutions. I stress: We are not seeking privileges; we are ready to join them on standard terms; we favor liberalization of international trade, not protectionism. But we hope that the Russian economic specifics will be taken into account by our partners.

Russia also merits admission to the Paris Club as a creditor. After all, we are owed $150 billion. The role of a donor—unfortunately, so far unnoticed—we are also playing within the CIS framework. Russia's status as a country with a transition economy should also be enshrined in our partners' legislation and their trade practice. We hope that the United States will lift the legal norms introduced during the cold war, like the Jackson-Vanik amendment, as well as discriminatory—with respect to us—anti- dumping procedures. We expect the same from the EC. At present the EC applies 14 anti-dumping procedures with respect to Russian goods, while direct and indirect losses sustained by our exporters as a result are estimated at $2-3 billion. The paradox is that the effect of these procedures for the economy of the new Russia—the West's partner—is far more painful than for the economy of the USSR, its former potential enemy. After all, the monopoly of foreign trade and centralized planning, which in the past the Kremlin used to neutralize Western anti-dumping measures, have now been abolished. I believe that the extent of economic decentralization and liberalization of Russia's foreign trade give grounds for a serious revision by Brussels of the criteria and procedures for applying anti-dumping measures with respect to Russia.

In planning the stages of Russia's further integration into the world economy, it needs to be taken into account that haste, "skipping over the steps," is inappropriate here. After all, the acquisition of new rights in the framework of international institutions and agreements involves the assumption of new obligations. Many of them, especially in the currency and financial sphere, are simply beyond Russia's scope. Therefore we shall be adjusting the dialogue on accession to worldwide economic structures with the pace of economic reform, and the real possibilities and needs of our economy. Admission to new international economic organizations is not an end in itself for us. Here, we shall not be following the old Soviet principle of "catching up with and surpassing [the West]." On the European level, a need has grown urgent for a serious dialogue on creating a free trade zone within the framework of the whole continent. This question merits the attention of the upcoming CSCE summit in Budapest.

It is essential to speed up preparation of a provisional agreement between Russia and the EC so that the potential of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement is activated even before its ratification. It is also important to extend European Investments Bank operations to Russia. This would impart the requisite credit and financial impetus to implementing the Partnership Agreement. Likewise it is necessary to accelerate the work by Russian and EC experts on the project of creating a multipartite agency on investment guarantees in Russia.

An important, and so far underused, instrument of overcoming the economic division of Europe is international cooperation on the regional level. I have just taken part in a conference of the Council for Barents/Euro-Arctic Cooperation where the member states announced their support for 70 major international projects of a regional character. I think that the positive experience, accumulated here bit by bit, just like in analogous structures in the Black and Baltic Sea areas, should be used more widely by business people both in Russia and in the West. More specifically, this involves the creation of regional foundations to promote small and medium-size entrepreneurship, which would stimulate an influx of capital, and channel it toward the implementation of concrete projects. Via regional organizations it is easier to concentrate the efforts of business circles and local power bodies on priority projects capable of producing, as specialists say, a multiplier effect for the economy of the entire region. These are large projects for the development of infrastructures as well as projects for using high technology in the sphere of conversion.

It is vital to step up cooperation sharply in the struggle against "black business," which is hurting everybody. Smuggling of strategic materials, money laundering in each others' banks, and, finally, the threat of direct fraud to discredit economic partnership in the public eyes both in Russia and in the West. A close network of agreements on legal assistance among partners is called for. And finally, we ourselves must deal with a number of acute, if not painful, problems, primarily create a more favorable climate for foreign investments in the country. The government is preparing a number of draft laws envisioning additional privileges and other measures to protect the interests of foreign businesses in Russia. In particular it is planned to impose a five-year moratorium, which can be effected only through legislative channels, on investment-impairing conditions. Enterprises where foreign investments account for more than 30 percent will be able to retain the greater part of hard currency receipts from the export of their goods. Guarantees of free use of profits will be introduced. By the end of the year, in accordance with a government decision, a package program to stimulate domestic and foreign investments is to be adopted.

Kozyrev Defends CIS Peacekeeping Role

LD2409193594 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] It would seem that the problem of the very faraway island of Haiti, where American forces have landed to restore democracy, has little in common with our problems, but that can seem so only to the inexperienced. Confirmation of this was a statement by a U.S. State Department spokesman. Without beating about the bush the diplomat said that Russia should not use the American presence in

Haiti as grounds for unilateral military actions of its own in the former Soviet republics. Since the United States was acting on the basis of a UN mandate, the situation in the island should not be taken as a model by other countries, he said.

Everything then is quite plain and understandable—understandable to the Americans, that is, but not everything is plain and understandable to our immediate neighbors, who seek our assistance and mediation. Before departing for London, [Russian Foreign Minister] Andrey Kozyrev gave a clarification to our correspondent on this matter.

[Begin Kozyrev recording] No other country apart from Russia has such an opportunity to take part in the settlement of CIS conflicts. Nevertheless, certain American diplomats are speaking to the effect that stability in the Transcaucasus is worse than a strengthening of Russia's role. This viewpoint is quite absurd. You know, we are trying to achieve the opening of a route that is important for Abkhazia, for Georgia as a whole and for Azerbaijan and Armenia. I think that in the very near future these talks will show results. Besides this we are working on the return of refugees and are trying to get this process speeded up, because our troops are not deployed there to guard the so-called Abkhaz-Georgian border and record the fact that refugees are not returning. They are there to uphold security in an area where refugees are due to return. Finally, the broader political process is to work out a modus vivendi, that is to say certainly a special status for Abkhazia but nevertheless within the framework of the Georgian state's territorial integrity. [end recording]

UN Secretary General Gives Dinner for Yeltsin

LD2609081994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0751 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] United Nations September 26 TASS—In an exceptional move, the United Nations secretary-general gave a dinner in honour of Russian President Boris Yeltsin on the day of his arrival in New York where he is due to address the U.N. General Assembly session.

Traditionally, the U.N. chief hosts a reception for all the heads of state arriving to attend a General Assembly session in the U.N. Headquarters on the first day of the general political discussion. This time, a lunch will be given in honour of the heads of state and government who have arrived to take part in the 49th session of the General Assembly in U.N. Headquarters.

The secretary-general's decision to make an exception and give a separate dinner in honour of Boris Yeltsin directly after the Russian president's arrival in New York is seen by diplomats as a sign of very good relations between the two. Butrus-Ghali has been to the Russian capital many times. He was President Boris Yeltsin's personal guest last April. The decision to hold a separate, informal meeting reflected the level of two men's relations and mutual understanding. The mansion of the U.N. secretary-general, where the Russian president was welcomed, is located a few blocks away from headquarters of the international community. The walls of the four- storey Victorian building of dark-red brick with large windows painted white, their shutters and doors painted black, are decorated, despite autumn weather, with wild vine.

The dinner was scheduled for 20.00. About an hour earlier, American security service officers and two of the Russian president's bodyguards arrived on the spot to check the rooms and the inner patio facing the East River. Having found that a police boat was patrolling the East River, the presidential bodyguards reported by telephone that everything was in order and that Boris Yeltsin could leave the Russian mission residence where he had gone upon arrival in New York.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent was the only journalist permitted to enter the secretary-general's residence during the Russian president's arrival there. A limousine carrying the Russian national flag and escorted by several cars with bodyguards arrived at 19.50. Butrus-Ghali came out to greet the Russian president and his wife.

In the entrance hall, Boris Yeltsin left a note in the book for honoured guests. He did not use the pen that lay next to the book but took out his own instead. He signed the book and asked his wife to do the same.

They were about to go upstairs when Butrus-Ghali exclaimed: "The president's pen. You've left behind the president's pen". "I use this pen to sign laws and decrees," Boris Yeltsin said with a smile.

The party was photographed, and Boris Yeltsin handed over to Butrus-Ghali presents "from the president of Russia".

Neither Boris Yeltsin nor Butrus Butrus-Ghali made any statements for the press during their meeting.

Yeltsin Calls UN Speech 'Main Trial' of Visit

LD2609040694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2208 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Igor Borisenko and Yuiry Sizov]

[Text] New York, 26 Sep—"The main trial for me is the speech at the UN," Russian President Boris Yeltsin announced after his arrival in New York on Sunday evening, replying to questions from journalists who included a correspondent of Itar-Tass.

"For the first time the president of the Russian Federation is speaking at the UN General Assembly. This is a very responsible matter and naturally there is some excitement."

"In Washington," the Russian president continued, "there will be very big and very serious talks on absolutely the whole complex of questions. It will be a huge, difficult and serious job as part of the partnership of the United States and Russia, but at the same time there are some questions which U.S. President Clinton and I have to discuss together."

Going on to reply to a question from one of the journalists as to whether "any difficulties" were envisaged, the Russian president stressed: "I would not say difficulties, but now there is a completely new situation in the world, a new alignment of forces, which requires new approaches, and not everyone is ready for this. So we have to somehow check that we are in step with one another."

Russian President Yeltsin arrived in New York on Sunday where he will address the participants in the general political debate at the 49th session of the UN General Assembly.

UN Speech Previewed

LD2609075594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0644 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] New York 26 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—The end of the Cold War and the termination of east-west confrontation have created conditions for a radical reduction of the threat of a nuclear conflict and for building a collective security system on a new, non-confrontational basis.

This assumption is expected to form the backbone of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's address to the 49th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations here today.

The address is due to begin at 15.00 local time on Monday, when late evening will have begun in Moscow.

In a message to the U.N. secretary-general and in his speech at a session of the U.N. Security Council in January 1992, President Yeltsin set forth a new Russia's programme of action in the sphere of nuclear disarmament. That programme has been unswervingly adhered to and fulfilled since then.

But progress towards real nuclear disarmament calls for the maintenance and strengthening of strategic stability and for putting up a dependable barrier to curb nuclear rivalry and prevent it from resurfacing elsewhere.

In this connection, sources in the Russian delegation point out that President Yeltsin is likely to voice an urgent call on the nuclear powers to take new energetic steps in the field of strengthening nuclear security and strategic stability.

This initiative will probably aim at discontinuing production of weapons-grade fissionable materials; preventing the secondary use in weapons of the nuclear materials released as a result of disarmament; and at further liquidation of nuclear stockpiles and reduction of the number of strategic carriers.

Such an initiative would cover the main links of the nuclear chain and ensure an irreversible and predictable character of the movement of all nuclear countries along the path of nuclear disarmament, the sources in the Russian delegation said.

Russian diplomats believe that such an initiative would help create favorable conditions for reaching a resolution on an indefinite and unconditional prolongation of the nuclear non- proliferation treaty, and give a new impulse to the working out of a treaty banning nuclear testing.

Arbatov on U.S. Relations, Summit

MK2309113394 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Sep 94 p 4

[Article by Academician Georgiy Arbatov, director of the United States and Canada Studies Institute, in the "Opinion" column: "Unsolicited Advice. In the Run-Up to the Meeting of Russian and U.S. Presidents, Suppositions Can Be Made About Its Agenda"]

[Text] What Boris Yeltsin and Bill Clinton will be discussing at their meeting, due to take place in a few days time, is a big secret. Just as, incidentally, almost always before a summit either side, or both, wants to produce an impact on the public—after all, this is one major goal of such meetings—with some sort of surprise, unexpected development. Yet, as a rule, this is an open secret. Anyone who follows the situation more or less closely can, even if not in detail, surmise what will be key in both conversations and documents to be adopted.

Today the main subject will, in all likelihood, again be economic relations—more specifically, how the United States can help Russia overcome its profound economic crisis. Even though the question may not be put quite so bluntly so as not to humiliate Russia and its president: The latter, with this end in view, has on many occasions stated that he will not be asking for aid from abroad.

Why this subject seems to be taking center stage again is clear. The situation in the economy is too severe and prospects for the foreseeable future too gloomy, although in the past few months some of our statesmen have been trying hard to have us believe that the situation has begun to improve, even if only slightly, and that the light at the end of the tunnel can already be seen. In this connection a U.S. economist joked: Are these not the lights of an upcoming train? Our economic difficulties, in contrast to what some representatives of the Russian implacable opposition maintain, worry U.S. and Western leaders: It is not without reason that they fear that economic collapse will lead to political chaos and open the way to a dictatorship of left or right extremists. Which, especially given our military overkill capacity—including nuclear—is far from safe also for them.

Therefore, chances are that the Americans' intentions are basically good. But we all now what road they are sometimes used to pave. After all, the IMF, the World Bank, and the United States with its allies—the "big seven," not to mention consultants and advisers flooding Moscow and other cities—have been trying to help us for at least three years now. Yet the situation is only getting worse.

To a considerable extent, I believe, because the main instrument chosen for the assistance was support for the shock therapy which marked the beginning of all our present misfortunes: near hyperinflation; impoverishment of a substantial part of the population and its unprecedented polarization according to property status; the sharp decline in production; and the uncompetitiveness of domestic products, including foodstuffs, even on the domestic market. That the West has assisted this "reform" has, alas, played a not insignificant role in the growth, in recent years, of anti- American and anti-Western sentiments in Russia.

Generally, when my American acquaintances ask me: "How can we help you?," I tell them: First of all, do not give any more bad advice. Although I understand that the primary responsibility is borne not by the one who gives bad advice but the one who follows it.

This, of course, does not mean that the United States and the West have no way of helping us economically. I mean not only monetary donations or credits. Our extremely rich country, with just barely passable management, has no reason to lay claim to the former; and the latter have to be returned, and we are deeply in debt as it is. It is vital to facilitate the influx of private investments to Russia and make it more attractive for them, which, incidentally, rather depends on ourselves. A certain role can be played by abolishing current discriminatory regulations and ensuring greater access to world markets, including for competitive science- intensive products, and so forth.

And if something along these lines is discussed, decided, and officially recorded in the course of the summit meeting, this will be not at all bad, quite useful. Although with the present level of relations, much in this sphere can be done just as well without summits, on the routine, working level, so to speak.

Even if economic matters again become the focus of the upcoming meeting, it will surely not be limited to them: Some attention will probably also be given to current political and military questions. Naturally, such meetings do not go without this.

On the whole, it will certainly be assessed as a major success, especially considering that this success is very badly needed by both presidents. And their press services and their propaganda apparatus will, as is usually the case, do their best in this respect.

Believe me, I am writing all this without irony or sneer, but with a feeling of some regret. Because, it seems to me, both sides have so far not applied themselves to work out a well thought-out agenda for further development of Russian-U.S. relations. After all, an event of truly historical significance has occurred: With the end of the cold war a whole era in the history of international relations has ended; having lost the main enemy, as represented by each other, our two countries have also lost the main target of their policy; and the entire international system, built to fit the confrontation of the two superpowers, has become obsolete, just as, incidentally, the definite measure of discipline and certainty for third countries, inherent in it.

All this cannot but entail some enormous changes in the entire system and structure of international relations, and also the creation, in the place of a bipolar, black-and-white world in a state of tough confrontation, of a new, so far unseen, international system. And, naturally, this tremendous work will call for active participation, and in some spheres also leadership, by the greatest powers: the United States and Russia—which, even though now in crisis, still remains a great power and, moreover, sooner or later will, hopefully, emerge from this crisis.

One tends to get the impression that neither the public, nor the governments, nor experts—at any rate, the majority of them—were duly prepared for the termination of the cold war, for a new era following it, with a multitude of its own problems and challenges. And therefore today there is probably no state that has a well thought-out, long-term policy, and a carefully devised concept for a system of international relations which should replace the cold war [philosophy]. Signs are that this fully applies to the two great powers, whose leaders will meet in just a few days. So far policy is more a reaction to emerging situations rather than part of a deeply elaborated political strategy and tactics.

I do not aspire to present this strategy and its priorities off the cuff, as I go along. Improvisation is inappropriate here. But some problems, including those involved in relations between Russia and the United States, and their cooperation, are unmistakable.

The cold war has left a hard legacy. These are the mountains of arms which could be sold or lost, or which could fall into the wrong hands. What is to be done with these weapons; how to get rid of their surplus in the soonest and most reliable way—this is a question which naturally becomes the center of discussion. Along with the entirety of related secondary questions, such as, for instance, strict control of nuclear arms components, and ways and means of destroying all the other types of mass annihilation weapons: chemical, biological, and generally any especially dangerous weapons that could be used for aggression. And also negotiations on control of trade in conventional arms which can become a fuse to regional and local conflicts.

Another legacy of the cold war is the overbloated military industry, cooperation in the conversion of which should also become a subject of constant and very intense discussion by Russian and U.S. leaders.

Furthermore, has the question of the demilitarization of the world and international relations in all of its aspects not grown urgent?

Yet another question calling for close and urgent attention by the powers is the creation of effective regional security systems in Europe and possibly in the northern part of the Pacific, and in other regions. Also, strengthening the role of the United Nations as the only international organization called upon to promote security on a global scale, to channel and coordinate corresponding activity in the regions. This will probably also be part of the discussion:

After all, the meeting coincides with the opening of a regular General Assembly session.

These are pressing questions, so to speak. Besides, there are a great many others whose discussion also cannot be postponed for too long: questions of ecological security, and pressing economic problems, including the question of whether the main international economic organizations—the IMF, the World Bank, and some others—respond to present-day realities; also, the struggle against terrorism, crime, and drug trafficking, and others.

These fundamental problems must be tackled sooner or later.

In conclusion, yet another question.

In the state Russia is now in, international public and political opinion continues to produce an impact on the course of events and the mood in this country—a substantial impact, even though diminished in the recent period. In the West, there is an ongoing private, and often public, debate on what is more important for Russia: democratic development or stability. Only recently the balance was tipping in favor of democracy: The greatest fear was of leftist or rightist extremists coming to power, a military coup, and an authoritarian degeneration of the incumbent administration. Then the mood began to change: Destabilization, disintegration, and anarchy are now progressively begetting fears.

I have only one comment to make. In present-day conditions there can be no stability without democracy—real democracy, leaning on more or less developed institutions and principles at the top and at the bottom; on the separation of powers; a rule-of-law state; civil society and parliamentarianism; civil, political, oversight of the power structures; active local self-government bodies; free press, TV, and radio; and so forth. Without them, stability can be reminiscent of stability as under Stalin or Hitler, which, incidentally, was solid in both instances.

Newspaper Sees Dangers in Washington Summit

MK2409085094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 1

[Report by Dmitriy Gornostayev under the "President" rubric: "Yeltsin Embarks on Large-Scale Foreign Policy Tour. Russia's Head of State To Address the United Nations for the First Time. Boris Nikolayevich's Unpredictability, Much Touted by Official Propaganda, Might Lead to a Serious Blunder During Meeting with Clinton"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] If one returns to the January summit between Yeltsin and Clinton in Moscow, one recalls that then they also signed a trilateral agreement between Moscow, Washington, and Kiev on the elimination of Ukraine's nuclear arms. At that time, the United States laid to rest its fears that yet another nuclear power might emerge. There is no reason to deny that Russia pursued the same objective. It is becoming clear, however, that the Americans had many more anxieties in that regard. Having dealt with Ukraine, the United States appears to have decided to start pressuring Russia imperceptibly and carefully. Why it is careful is understandable: Russia's weight category is higher than Ukraine's. There are signs, however, that arguments have already cropped up over the issue. In the first place, there is the preparation of amendments to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] (see NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA No. 182 of 23 September), which appear to be extremely disadvantageous to Russia. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA has learned that serious fears are lurking in Russian military-political circles that President Yeltsin might unexpectedly agree to the amendments and sign a corresponding document. This tradition of unpredictability of the Kremlin bosses has repeatedly manifested itself on the international scene: from Khrushchev's pounding on the rostrum of the UN General Assembly, to Brezhnev's driving Henry Kissinger's car, and Yeltsin's renaming the Greek prime minister after an—also Greek—cognac of a similar- sounding name, and his recent conducting of an orchestra at the ceremony to see off Russian troops from Germany. All these incidents are remembered with a bitter smile and a feeling of shame. Not more.

Now, it seems, much more serious consequences for Russian security could be at issue. We plainly demonstrated the level of this security for all to see just on the eve of Yeltsin's visit to Britain and the United States by switching off electricity to the strategic nuclear missiles' command post. This confusion was caused when a felt boot was thrown on a control panel, and, although the situation is opposite to what happened in a well-known joke, it cannot but put whom we now call our Western partners on the alert. It is adding yet another argument to their proposals and statements with regard to relations with Russia.

The day before yesterday, U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry agreed with a Pentagon recommendation that further large cuts in the U.S. nuclear arsenal are inadvisable. The chief of the U.S. Defense Department said that the reason for this decision is the slow pace of dismantling Russian weapons of mass destruction and, importantly, what Washington sees as a still remaining threat of a regime hostile to it coming to power in Moscow. Perry stated: "We want to have a reliable shield in case reform is abandoned and a military regime hostile to the United States comes to power in Russia, a regime that will get at its disposal the 25,000 pieces of nuclear weapons still remaining there."

As a matter of fact, it is here that interests could converge during the summit. Boris Yeltsin, judging from information available to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, intends to sound out the possible U.S. reaction to postponing presidential elections in Russia and extending his term of office by extra-constitutional means. If the United States is really fearful of a new regime coming to power, they will side with Yeltsin on the matter. But then it would be more difficult for Washington to talk about freezing cuts in its nuclear reserve. In return, a proposal could follow to give the go-ahead to new amendments to the NPT.

If the political side of the meeting is not clear even on its eve and raises concerns, the economy gives more grounds for optimism. It is well known that Clinton plans to submit to Congress proposals on lifting all restrictions on U.S. trade with Russia. If this occurs, Moscow stands to benefit much more from that than it would from all loans and financial assistance, which were usually pledged to it following such meetings. It is easy to guess that the summit will have a fairly vast economic agenda.

The presidents will also discuss problems relating to international conflicts. Differences could emerge in connection with the NATO aviation's latest bomb attack on the positions of the Bosnian Serbs. The prospects for discussing the problem of Haiti also appear fairly interesting. If previous Russian-American summits dealt with conflicts within the CIS, near the Russian Federation's borders, this time crises in what is the United States' "near abroad" will also be subject to discussion, at Yeltsin's initiative at that. [passage omitted]

Kozyrev Accuses Contact Group of Inaction

LD2309204194 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1930 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Kiev—On 23 September Andrey Kozyrev, head of Russia's foreign policy department, commenting to journalists on the reaction by Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the latest bombing by NATO aircraft of Serb positions in the former Yugoslavia, stated that peacekeepers of the French battalion came under fire. They called for air support after thoroughly studying the situation. "We consider that peacekeepers should be protected by all means at the disposal of the world community," Andrey Kozyrev stressed.

According to the Russian diplomat, the military activeness of both sides in the Sarajevo region is increasing. The Muslim side, he believes, is resorting to provocation. He also noted that the latest events show the inadmissibility of any delay in political actions by the Contact Group for settling the conflict. This group is unable to adopt a resolution either in support of Belgrade or with regard to intensifying sanctions against the Bosnian Serbs.

The head of Russia's foreign policy department also reported that voting had been postponed on the initiative of one of the members of the Contact Group. In his opinion, instead of resolute actions a political vacuum is being created and all of the responsibility for this lies namely with the Contact Group. "If it goes on like this, the escalation of combat actions will continue in this region," Russia's foreign minister emphasized.

'Diplomat' Warns Against Attacks on UN Forces

LD2309193194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1805 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Moscow said hostile actions against the UN forces in Bosnia were inadmissible.

The statement of a Russian diplomat transferred to Interfax today said that any of the parties attacking peacekeepers must realize the possible serious consequences of such an action. The statement appeared as a result of the increasing military activity around Sarajevo.

The representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry said that last Sunday Moslems had dealt a blow on Serb troops. Serbs had returned fire. Later, Bosnian Serbs launched a direct attack against the UN forces in Sarajevo which resulted in casualties among French servicemen.

The diplomat said the main point was to prevent this incident becoming a wide-scale military actions in Sarajevo which could negatively influence the situation with civilians and would put the security of the UN forces under threat.

Moscow To Supply Algeria With 47 Helicopter Gunships

LD2409161794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] The Ulan-Ude Production Association has begun to fill an urgent order for Algeria. Interfax's correspondent reports that in the next nine months Buryatia's aircraft builders will sell 47 MI-8 helicopters equipped for combat operations to the North African country.

Algeria is the second-largest buyer of choppers from Buryatia after China.

The 47 helicopters were built earlier as cargo transporters, but none of the traditional Russian buyers was prepared to pay for them.

Kozyrev Views 'Constructive' Kiev Talks

LD2309132794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1143 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik and UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya]

[Text] Kiev, 23 Sep—"We tried to come up with decisions which were in the interests of both states." Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said this to ITAR-TASS and UKRINFORM correspondents today at the end of his two-day visit to Ukraine.

Describing the Kiev talks, Andrey Kozyrev noted that they were "constructive." "The impression left on me is a pleasant one. An unpoliticized businesslike mood prevailed during our conversations," he stressed.

"There was no question of concessions by any party at the talks," the Russian foreign minister said. "We tried to come up with decisions which were in the interests of both states. The further we get with the talks process, the more convinced we become that the interests of Russia and Ukraine do not run contrary to one another. We have no basically conflicting interests. This is a reliable basis from which all issues may be resolved to everyone's satisfaction, although the questions discussed are, of course, so complex that resolving them quickly is not a simple matter. The main thing is that we have left political slogans behind and moved on to specific matters."

Andrey Kozyrev stressed that Russia recognizes Ukraine's interests both in bilateral cooperation and multilateral cooperation within the framework of the CIS. "These kinds of relations supplement one another and widen opportunities for resolving the most topical issues for the good of our peoples," the Russian foreign minister noted.

During his visit, Andrey Kozyrev met Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz. He also had talks with Ukrainian Deputy Prime Ministers Yevhen Marchuk and Volodymyr Plityn; Valeriy Shmarov, deputy prime minister and acting defense minister; and Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev flew from Kiev to London today.

Foreign Economics Minister Meets Ukraine Minister

LD2409160194 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Video report by correspondent A. Sladkov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today's meeting between Oleg Davydov, Russian minister for foreign economic relations, and his Ukrainian counterpart Serhiy Osyka was yet another move toward bringing Russia and Ukraine together. As a result of the meeting the sides agreed to remove discrepancies in the directions of the Russian and Ukrainian foreign economic policies, and on coordinating trading activities on third countries' markets. They recognized the need to develop agreements between Russia and Ukraine on the implementation of the free trade regime.

The ministers agreed on joint moves to accede to the GATT and on coordinating the policy in the field of antidumping processes. Now, in line with international rules, Ukraine will be able to sell Russian products only with permission from Moscow. The same rules, naturally, will apply to Russian sellers. From now on we will not sell separately the same product on third countries' markets that makes sellers, not buyers, suffer.

But the main thing is that Russia and Ukraine have now approached in real earnest the signing of the intergovernmental agreement on friendship, cooperation, and partnership. Its signing is expected in the very near future.

Russia 'Thoroughly' Studying UN Standing Army Proposal

LD2609092694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0902 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Lyudmila Aleksandrova, Igor Borisenko, and Yuriy Sizov]

[Text] New York September 26 TASS—Russia throughly studies matters connected with the realisation of the U.N. secretary- general's proposals aimed at strengthening the U.N. Security Council's crisis management capability, informed sources told ITAR- TASS on the eve of Russian-President Boris Yeltsin's fothcoming address at the 49th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The U.N. chief's proposals, formulated in his recent report on the agenda for peace, included the one concering the formation of a multinational U.N. standing force which by a decision of the U.N. Security Council could be promptly deployed in peacekeeping operations.

Expert estimate is that Russia could assign up to three motorised rifle battalions as a "national stand-by force" to participate in peacekeeping operations conducted by a decision of the U.N. Security Council.

Neither is it ruled out that Russia could detach a group of combatant and support naval ships, which already gained experience within the framework of the post-crisis settlement in the Gulf, to a U.N. stand-by force. However, a decision as to which operations the force would be used will be taken, in the final analysis, in Moscow, informed sources told ITAR-TASS.

PRC Military Delegation Visits Transbaykal Region

LD2609083694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0741 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fomin]

[Text] Chita September 26 TASS—A group of Chinese high- ranking military officers and diplomats begins a visit to the Transbaykal Military District today. The visit, the first of its kind, has been organized by the General Staff of the Russian Defence Ministry and the national centre for reducing nuclear danger.

The military district headquarters told ITAR-TASS that methods of international control over troops will also be practiced during the visit.

The programme of the visit also includes a meeting with the Trans-Baykal Military District Command, a visit to the army training centre outside Chita and familarization with military technical equipment and arms. The guests will sum up the results of the visit during a press conference. An extended cultural programme is envisaged.

Political Issues

Interior Minister Yerin Rumored To Resign

MM2309155894 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23-26 Sep 94 p 3

[Report by Vasiliy Ustyuzhanin: "Resignation: Will Viktor Yerin Quit?"]

[Text] People are saying that Viktor Yerin, head of the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs], may resign shortly. The name of Mikhail Yegorov, first deputy minister of internal affairs and leader of the Directorate for the Fight against Organized Crime, is being cited among the most likely candidates to replace him.

The latter is known as the man behind the formulation of the president's June edict on the fight against gangsterism.... In June he addressed the Duma. At the time he said that the formation of new economic structures, the birth of syndicates, major trusts, and banks was the main reason for the document's emergence. That is, he then highlighted where the cutting edge of the edict was directed.

Meanwhile the promised tranquillity on the streets has not materialized. There is no reason either to accuse the militia of inactivity: The jails are overflowing—according to some figures there are around 1 million people in them, around 10,000 of those entrepreneurs and businessmen. Anatoliy Pristavkin, chairman of the presidential commission for pardons, studied prisoners' conditions and was forced to write to the president that there could be riots in the penal colonies over the winter.

Not so long ago V. Mashkov, the president's representative in Sverdlovsk Oblast, wrote another time-honored memo to the Kremlin. In it he exposed the secret mechanism behind the actions of the Urals bureaucracy-mafia clan which is pumping money and raw materials to the West, using its connections with Moscow. In Mashkov's opinion, the clan constitutes a whole system of government, with not just one authority at the top, as in the criminal world, but representatives of authority structures and captains of industry. With sectoral, financial, and law-enforcement branches below. At the very bottom of the pyramid are the people who ensure the system of coercion and punishment for the disobedient and over-curious. This kind of clan cannot be combated; it writes its own laws.

Yeltsin Orders Removal of Archive Restrictions

LD2309155494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1446 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Moscow September 23 ITAR-TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has issued an order that unfounded restrictions on archival documents under the care of governmental and departmental archivists be removed. In addition, the order is designed to speed up work on opening up those archival documents whose secrecy time period is already up, ITAR-TASS was told by the press service of the Russian president.

Yeltsin ordered the creation of a commission responsible for making public the documents belonging to the CPSU. He has already confirmed the commission's staff. It is to be headed by Sergey Krasavchenko, first deputy head of the presidential administration.

The presidential order has made the Russian Federal Counterintelligence Service, Foreign Intelligence Service, Foreign Ministry and Rosarkhiv, the main archival authority, responsible for either opening up or prolonging the restrictions on the archival documents which are located in governmental and departmental storage.

Boris Yeltsin commissioned the federal bodies who are responsible for deciding which documents should be given restricted or secret status, by the end of this year, review all the documents they have, up to and including 1963, to see if they still deserve to be classified secret and to reconsider the appropriateness of the degree of classification earlier assigned.

The same bodies are also assigned the task of making sure that documents whose classification period has run out are quickly transferred to the state archives and document storage centres.

The presidential order states that his administration, together with Rosarkhiv shall set up the gradual transfer (in 1994 and 1995) of documents up to and including 1963 from the former archives of the CPSU Politburo, from the presidential archives where they are now stored to the appropriate authorities.

Khasbulatov Satisfied With Moscow Meetings

LD2409161594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] A leading member of the Chechen opposition, Ruslan Khasbulatov, who arrived in Moscow from Chechnya recently, has said that in the Russian capital he met with everyone he had wanted to meet. No one declined to confer with him, he pointed out in an exclusive interview with Interfax's special correspondent Vyacheslav Terekhov.

Unfortunately, said the former speaker of Russia's parliament, he had to meet also with those with whom he did not want to meet. He implied that those were his former allies in last autumn's events.

He received them with hospitality, but made it clear to them that at present he has other tasks and goals, he said.

According to Khasbulatov, when conferring with Russian officials he did not raise the issue of arms purchases. Despite his critical attitude to Chechnya's Interim Council, Khasbulatov said, he realizes that it represents lawful government in Chechnya. Therefore he asked to give comprehensive and effective, though not military, meaning armed force, aid to the Interim Council, not to his own peacemaking group, he said.

Upon his return to Chechnya he will inform his compatriots of Russia's firm support for the people of Chechnya, Khasbulatov stressed. He will also tell them that he is greatly satisfied with the meetings conducted in Moscow, and that he did not expect that his negotiations with Russian officials would be so productive. He realizes how great was the tragedy that occurred in Moscow last year. However everyone he talked with understood that people are dying in Chechnya now, and in the face of this fact everyone dropped his own prejudices.

Khasbulatov did not mention with whom he had conferred, but said: He was ready to prepare for the Russian president a detailed letter to describe the current developments in Chechnya, but unfortunately he was not asked for it.

He saw that those he talked with in Moscow were desirous to respond to his appeal and help the people of Chechnya in their struggle with the Dudayev regime, Khasbulatov said.

In answer to a question, Khasbulatov stressed that he does not want to become the leader of the Chechen Republic, but he will do his best to enable clever and intelligent people to come to power there. He developed a liking for peacemaking efforts, and he would be glad if, when the Chechen crisis is resolved, the Russian leadership would send him as a peacemaker to Karabakh, Yugoslavia or even African countries. He sees that he is successful at it, and he is glad that such capabilities were revealed in him, the former speaker of Russia's parliament pointed out.

Aides To Consider Khasbulatov's Views

LD2409171594 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin does not intend to meet Ruslan Khasbulatov, the leader of a peacemaking group. This was said today by Vyacheslav Kostikov, the president's press secretary. At the same time, he noted that the administration is ready to accept any positive points in Khasbulatov's analysis of the situation in Chechnya.

[Begin Kostikov recording] A pragmatic approach is required here. Certain emotions have sometimes to be set aside, and in general neither the president nor the president's team are people who bear a grudge. In general our actions are taken on the basis of Russia's best interests in a lowering of tension. If Ruslan Imranovich has any serious deep analytic information, and in this respect naturally we remember that he is a Chechen by nationality and that he has been in the thick of events in Chechnya for a long time, the presidential aides will of course be very interested to become acquainted with it, and it will help us to make certain decisions connected with eliminating this thorny problem. [end recording]

Saratov, Shokhin on Reshuffle, Baku Oil Deal

LD2409201294 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Video report by correspondent Mikhail Svetlichnyy]

[Excerpts] [Svetlichnyy] To add to the sensation that Vyacheslav Kostikov was not travelling with the president, one could also notice today that Georgiy Satarov was also absent from the delegation. Both Satarov and Kostikov were present today at the session of the Public Chamber in the Kremlin.

[Begin Satarov recording] I can speak for myself. I did not go because there are a lot of things to do here in preparing for the political season. One would be mistaken in making any assumptions on a possible reshuffle in the team of aides, or on some kind of disgrace. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin also took part in the work of the Public Chamber. He will join the president's team when it starts its visit to the United States. Shokhin maintains that the economic part of the summit would be successful if it finally lifts the discriminatory Jackson-Vanik Amendment vis-a-vis Russia. Asked by the NTV if the scandal around the agreement signed between Azerbaijan and a consortium of oil companies will be discussed in London, Aleksandr Shokhin said: I believe this issue will be raised, because the diplomatic note was sent only recently. The president's British file is rather thick.

Pro-Reform Deputies Discuss Strategy

MK2409084094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 3

[Report by Natalya Arkhangelskaya: "Faction Spokesmen Meet. Six on the Right—With no 'Our Guys' Attending"]

[Text] Representatives of six right-of-center factions gathered at the residence of presidential aide Georgiy Satarov on 22 September. The aim of the meeting was to try and create a broad-based reform coalition in the face of the consolidating opposition.

In addition to the host, those gathered for this confidential meeting in his private residence on Kosygin Street were deputies: Yegor Gaydar ("Russia's Choice"), Yekaterina Lyakhova ("Women of Russia"), Yevgeniy Bushmin (Liberal Democratic Union of "12 December"), Nikolay Travkin (Democratic Party of Russia), Sergey Shakhray (Party of Russian Unity and Accord), and Valeriy Maksimov ("New Regional Policy"). According to a report, the expected participation in the meeting of Grigoriy Yavlinskiy ("Yabloko") was "prevented by circumstances." The main question discussed by those gathered was lawmaking priorities, which proved to be three in number: the most burning economic laws (first of all, a law on securities); a law on regional self-government, long expected by the regions; and a package of laws on elections.

The problem of the elections dates surfaced, naturally enough. According to a participant who asked not to be named, nearly everybody agreed that the best prospect would be for elections for president and parliament in June 1996. This did not come off, however, without a special view: One of those present (who, precisely, could not be established) is leaning toward the well-known "Shumeyko variant"—to extend the powers of the president and parliament for two years. Not to be passed over in silence, naturally, was the question of confidence in the government which, according to information in the press, the opposition is getting ready to put to discussion in the State Duma. Participants in the meeting in Satarov's residence, however, believe that passing a decision on sacking the government through the Duma would not succeed, and that this does not correspond with today's public sentiments in Russia. It was underlined that it would be tactically wrong to go totally over to the defensive, because the opposition is not as strong as it would wish. Participants in the meeting concluded that the reform forces need a broad-based coalition because the political spectrum once again is becoming bipolar and, in order to win the elections, it is necessary to oppose the consolidation on one pole with a strong union on the other.

Shabanov Appointed Deputy Head of Control Directorate

LD2409161294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0749 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Moscow, 24 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—By order of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Dmitriy Shabanov has been appointed deputy head of the Control Directorate [Kontrolnoye Upravleniye] of the president of the Russian Federation.

The Russian president's order to this effect reached ITAR-TASS today.

Potential Presidential Candidates Profiled

MM2309143894 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 94 p 3

[Article by Vasiliy Ustyuzhanin: "Which of Them Will Soar Over Russia Like an Eagle?"]

[Text] So, is there a throng around the throne? Needless to say, it is not quite like that.... There are not that many real contenders and Boris Nikolayevich and Viktor Chernomyrdin are first among them. A little further on you have Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, Yegor Gaydar, Yuriy Luzhkov.... But Russian history is full of surprises. Let us look at this list a little more closely.

Grigoriy Yavlinskiy

He makes his nomination conditional on one thing—provided that by 1996 economic problems rather than semicriminal, semimafia showdowns are the main thing on the agenda. He is openly opposed to the government, far more openly than the Communists and the Agrarians. His candidacy will most likely be put forward (not without difficulty, admittedly) by scattered democratic forces. At the moment he is the only one of the candidates to have a clear, detailed economic program that has been put into practice (in Nizhniy Novgorod).

Vladimir Shumeyko

Recently in Kaliningrad when asked directly whether he would run for president, he gave the direct answer: Only if Yeltsin does not run. The chairman of the Federation Council is 49 years old. He has two children, both daughters. His female entourage has nevertheless failed to teach him the rules about addressing his opponents in brazen terms—like Khasbulatov recently and Yeltsin before him. And Stalin and Lenin before them (with intellectual variations). In this context he has little chance of becoming the democratic leader. He is even less in favor with the patriots. At the moment women are his main social base. He makes an extremely favorable impression on them.

Boris Fedorov

Fedorov patently liked politics. His Tuesday economic reviews in IZVESTIYA (which are, incidentally, written in a skillful, rich language) receive plenty of readers' letters suggesting: With your views you should run for president. And his image is a winner, that of a kindly Russian bear. A kind of Slav Helmut Kohl. Incidentally, they met in Germany a month ago. The two liberal democrats liked one another. But I would not be too sure that there will ever come a time in Russia that sees a victory for liberal democracy. What is important is who is holding the banner. And Fedorov has big hands.

Konstantin Borovoy

He gave up big business for politics. At least he gave up all his controlling shares in stocks and exchanges. Which does not, however, prevent him when necessary (in order to buy a six-room apartment in downtown Moscow, for instance) from effortlessly earning 100 million by speculating on security prices and also managing a major space project. The fact that he is rich and does not hide his wealth will most likely be a minus for impoverished Russia in 1996.

Aleksandr Rutskoy

He is an air force major general. His two sons are students. Will his movement "Accord for Russia" nominate him as their only candidate? That is extremely unlikely. During the October confrontation he displayed the entirely military skill of standing firm to the end, but in politics with its art of compromise and maneuver he proved an untrained draftee. Which is why he failed. Should he or, moreover, Zhirinovskiy come to power, that would mean a vulcanization of public life in Russia.

Yuriy Luzhkov

He does not want the presidency. Not now. His ambitions, bolstered by his undoubted economic talents, most likely stretch to the level of prime minister. He is a match for Chernomyrdin. And stronger in some respects. But he does not have enough support in the regions or among the military. His trips to the Crimea, Chuvashia, and Germany are indicative in this respect. Analysts regard Luzhkov's potential premiership as a stepping stone to the top.

Sergey Baburin

He is young and vain. He is not averse to fortune and glory in 1996. During a recent telephone conversation with your KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent he did not hide the fact that he would be running for president. He is convinced that Rutskoy, on whom all the patriots are banking, actually has minimal chances of success. "They and Yeltsin showed everyone what they are capable of last October. Yeltsin has two alternatives, one moderate, one violent." Zhirinovskiy is of course the violent alternative. While Baburin is of course the moderate one.

Gennadiy Zyuganov

He was recently Boris Yeltsin's neighbor. Was that what made the president move house? During a private conversation when asked "What is the point in engaging in political activity if you do not set yourself the supreme objective of running for president of the country?" he gave the following evasively meaningful answer: "If the party suggests me for one of the major state posts, I will submit to party discipline." It is most likely Communist discipline that will destroy all the "Accord for Russia" bloc's plans to nominate a single candidate. Of all the Communist leaders he is the most criticized but also the most promising.

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy

The leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia has the sternest and burliest guards. He pays bodyguards, according to some reports, around $1,500 a month. There are former officers from the KGB 10th Directorate in his guard. He is now gathering heaps of votes from cheated shareholders and lenders involved in the MMM Joint-Stock Company, "Tibet," and many other firms that have gone bankrupt or are in the process of going bust.

There have been revelations by politicians in the press citing the names of General Lebed, Marshal Shaposhnikov, Anpilov, Barkashov, Starovoytova, Pamfilova, Gorbachev, Nemtsov, Kadannikov, and Zorkin.

But while this (read—the presidential election) is going on there is time to think about today's pressing issues. Politicians have been given two years to acquire an appealing image, in psychologists' speak, by D-Day. Everyone, indeed, has something to work on. General Rutskoy, for instance, must lose by 1996 his damaging habit of angrily puffing up his moustache and yelling that scoundrels have ruined the country (he says with hand on heart that he has not had a hand in this). It is important for Zhirinovskiy to abandon the quasi-liberal and psychopathic rhetoric, which worked on the uninitiated but not on the initiated.

In short, everyone has been given homework to do before 1996—in correct spelling (the key word here being correct), diplomatic etiquette, and rhetoric.

And the incumbent president has been given two years to keep the country (and himself too) from the collapse that everyone is predicting.

Complaint Issued Against Yeltsin Visit Timing

MM2309122694 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 94 p 1

["Statement by a Group of Political and Social Figures of the Russian Federation"]

[Text] A visit by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin to the United States begins today. In itself, the development of interstate relations, including relations at the highest level, is only to be welcomed. However, this visit coincides with the first anniversary of the shooting down of Russia's legally elected parliament with the use of tank guns as ordered by B. Yeltsin.

It is well known that it was the unconditional support for President Yeltsin by the West, first and foremost the United States, that opened the way for him to carry out this action, which was unprecedented in Russia's history and which resulted not only in the deaths of hundreds of people but also in a sharp increase in corruption, the suppression of press freedom, and the rapid worsening of the political and economic crisis.

The open American support for antidemocratic tendencies in Russia casts doubt over the sincerity of U.S. statements by the United States about devotion to democracy and human rights, and, unfortunately, facilitates the growth of anti-Americanism in Russia.

The United States cannot fail to realize that a visit by B. Yeltsin visit on precisely these days, just like the Russian-American maneuvers at the Totskoye test range, which were carried out despite the clearly expressed will of the parliament, public, and political organizations of Russia, will be perceived in our country as confirmation that the United States approves of the coup d'etat of 21 September through 4 October 1993.

[Signed] V.V. Aksyuchits, V.I. Alksnis, I.I. Andronov, S.N. Baburin, G.A. Zyuganov, A.I. Lukyanov, V.V. Isakov, I.V. Konstantinov, A.V. Rutskoy.

Yeltsin Aide Calls for Vigilance Against Opposition

LD2309114994 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Presidential press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov issued a statement in connection with declarations by a group of activists of the irreconcilable opposition. These people, including Gennadiy Zyuganov and Aleksandr Rutskoy made a statement in which the events of October 1993 were presented as a coup d'etat led by President Yeltsin. The individuals who signed this document are apparently ignoring the views of the overwhelming majority of Russian citizens who believe that Boris Yeltsin saved the country from the danger of a civil war and a return of Soviet totalitarianism by his decisive actions, Kostikov says. Using demagogical methods, the leaders of the Communist Party are trying to collect signatures in favor of an early presidential election. They are hoping to destabilize the situation in Russia, as they did in fall 1993. Democratic Russia should be vigilant and united, says the statement by Vyacheslav Kostikov, press secretary to President Yeltsin.

Opposition Looks for Allies Among 'New Russians'

LD2409193994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1901 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Belskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—The opposition is closely watching the "new Russians". The national-patriotic forces will be doomed if they fail to gain support of the rich, Chairman of the Derzhava (Great Nation) Social-Patriotic Movement Ilya Konstantinov told a constituent congress of the Russian Youth Party here today.

In his words, the period of initial capital accumulation is nearing completion, and the new Russian bourgeoisie will be striving to preserve its capital. For this they will need strong power, order, lawfulness and protection from competition which "cannot be ensured by the current Russian authorities."

"The most important is to find internal differences in the rich clan," said Konstantinov. The opposition pins great hopes on cooperation with this layer of Russian society. "They have enormous financial and technical abilities, relations and mass media bodies. They will have arms as need be," he stressed.

Konstantinov warned the youth party they will have to struggle for long. "One should not think that people will take to the street and go to express their indignation in the immediate future," he said.

Konstantinov analyzed the reasons for opposition defeat in fall 1993. He said that deep understanding of these reasons will help the future of the opposition movement. There is no alternative, otherwise the national-patriotic forces are doomed to eternal opposition, said Konstantinov.

In his words, there "is no large-scale support to the opposition movement." The population has lost confidence in the system of local councils which were the core of the opposition. "The councils themselves gave the rise to the executive authority which they later opposed," he said.

Konstantinov believes that the goals announced by the opposition in fall 1993 were diametrically opposite. Some urged the need for communism, others wore swastika. In contrast to them the official ideology offered society "simple and attractive" values. As a result, "the people did not understand whom to follow and remained passive", said Konstantinov.

The opposition itself is guilty of its failure to attract the armed forces to its side, said the executive committee chairman. The officers' union on which the opposition staked did not justify the hopes. The officers' union mainly included veterans and did not enjoy support of active servicemen.

Slogans and appeals of the current opposition rallies were described by Konstantinov as a drawback of the opposition. He thinks they should have new goals.

Skokov Rumored To Be Opposition Candidate

LD2309195894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1805 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Former secretary of the Russian Security Council Yuriy Skokov will most likely be asked to be the opposition's single candidate for the next presidential election, a senior opposition source said.

The candidacy of Skokov, who today heads the Union of Commodity Producers, is to be considered by the October meeting of the State Council of Political Forces of Russia, elected by the so-called First Congress of Opposition Forces held in Kaliningrad on September 15-16, the source told Interfax on condition of anonymity.

The source said Skokov would also be asked to run for governor of Kaliningrad Region, Russia's Baltic exclave which the opposition regards as one of its strongholds.

However, a source close to Skokov himself told Interfax this was "the first time" he had heard of such "provocative" proposals.

State Council member Oleg Rumyantsev told Interfax that Skokov's candidature had been contemplated neither at the Kaliningrad congress nor afterwards. "The congress accepted what was my proposal, namely not to nominate a leader at this point, confining ourselves to the election of a State Council from among politicians and active opposition members and of a shadow government from among specialists sharing the ideas of the First Congress of Russian Opposition Forces," he said.

Rutskoy Calls Opposition 'Political Farce'

LD2309193594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1822 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Kakovkin]

[Text] Ryazan September 23 TASS—ex-Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy described the Russian opposition as "political farce" here today. He said that the recent congress of national-patriotic forces in Kaliningrad proved this statement by failing to elect a leader.

In the words of Rutskoy, his Derzhava (great power) public-political movement has been joined by over 750,000 Russian citizens as fully-fledged members.

The ex-vice-president plans to visit all Russian regions as part of his election campaign. He refuted as an "invention of democratic press" the rumor claiming he will not run for president at the upcoming elections. Rutskoy said he will decide to do it if supported at a plebiscite with the help of the Derzhava public-political movement.

Barkashov Says Regime Gearing Up for 'Provocation'

MK2309085094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Aug 94 p 2

[Report by M.I. under the "Parties" rubric: "RNU leader Leaves Moscow. Aleksandr Barkashov Suspects Authorities of Major Provocation"]

[Text] The editorial office has at its disposal a curious document—a political statement by Russian National Unity [RNU] leader Aleksandr Barkashov. It says in particular: "A number of events of late attest to the fact that the ruling regime, the Moscow authorities first and foremost, are preparing a massive, monstrous provocation, taking advantage of the anniversary of the October [1993] tragedy. The words from Yeltsin's press secretary Mr. Kostikov to the effect that "the autumn will be muscular" dovetail with the fact that vehicles packed with Special-Purpose Militia Detachments and snipers are cruising Moscow streets at night: A "reconnaissance range-finding" is under way for possible popular protests that will be, as experience shows, rather ably organized by plainclothesmen with policeman's bearing. We have come to learn that the number of internal troops and units is to be increased by tens of thousands of men. The mass media have reported that plans are already in place to disband the Federal Counterintelligence Service, which has been at least to some degree stemming the tide of corruption sweeping the upper echelons of power, and which has recently caused the royal displeasure by its active role in the "Vaynberg affair" and in others. [all quotation marks as published]

Aleksandr Barkashov names the reasons that may prompt the authorities into the provocation. Objectively, the authorities have proven their complete inability to rule the state. Production is falling, the evident and hidden unemployment is generating masses of disaffected and angry people. The authorities have neither the ability nor corresponding levers nor the political will to avoid a disaster in whose wake Russia is going to turn into a conglomeration of separate regions. Subjectively, the scale of corruption has exceeded all permissible limits. Any government that would come to replace the existing regime would have to start investigation into all the known and unknown frauds. Which is why the majority in the upper echelon of power has to be physically preserved. And this, Mr. Barkashov believes, is a rather strong stimulus "to resort to any, the most extreme measures: To provoke mass protests, to impose 'with the aim to prevent further bloodshed' direct presidential rule, to disband the Federation Council and the State Duma. And hands will yet remain free for an indefinite time. The fall of democracy in Russia will of course be blamed on the national patriotic forces." Mr. Barkashov has stated that he is leaving Moscow "so as to avoid direct or indirect part in the monstrous provocation," and urges everybody to be very careful during these days.

Communist-Sponsored Opposition Conference Reported

MK2409120094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 2

[Report by Viktor Khamrayev under the "Analyses" rubric: "CPRF Suggests That Soviets Should Not Be Idealized, They Should Be Simply Restored. Communists Want To Lure Foreign Capital of 'New Russians' to Country"]

[Text] The "days of memory and protest" that are being continued in Moscow by the opposition forces, which appeared to have united on the eve of the anniversary of the September-October tragedy, alas, have demonstrated to the opposition itself the fragility of its newly reached unity.

The 21 September rally on Teatralnaya Square, where the "radicals" called the shots, urged a mass civil disobedience campaign to be launched through calling an all-Russia strike, claiming that holding a referendum on early presidential elections would be financially inadvisable and new elections would make no sense, either—the "bloody regime," according to a statement adopted by the rally, must just step down, period.

The scientific-practical conference the next day, on the contrary, recommended the invocation of constitutional provisions that will make it possible to achieve the same ends without a disobedience campaign. Notably, the conference was initially scheduled to analyze "the lessons of black October," with Valeriy Skurlatov, Viktor Anpilov, and Stanislav Terekhov planning to join the debate. Yet the presidium of the former parliamentary center's conference hall was decorated with a banner "The Communist Party of the Russian Federation [CPRF]," the Moscow City Committee of the CPRF featured as organizer of the event, and Gennadiy Zyuganov was its chairman; so the scientific-practical conference was renamed "On the Restoration of Soviets" and actually ceased to be a conference at all, turning into a meeting with the Moscow electorate, even though it retained its scientific nature.

Anatoliy Lukyanov delivered a historical-political report entitled "Soviet People's Power—Origins, Destruction, and Revival." Having briefly traced the history of soviets from their inception to dissolution, and noting in the meantime that "idealizing soviets would be stupid," the last chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet proceeded to conclude that "on the whole they went much farther than parliamentarianism in terms of people's power," for which reason they should be resuscitated everywhere.

What Mr. Lukyanov termed as "the overall destruction of the Soviet system" carried out by "Yeltsin and his clique" was branded as "a Bonapartist coup propped up by the power structures" and Western assistance. The Federal Assembly, in the State Duma deputy's view, is "a cover for a presidential dictatorship"—"there is the fourth estate, the absolute presidential authority that is overhanging all the other branches of power like that of a monarch." In conclusion, Mr. Lukyanov put forward the slogan of the day: "Everyone who holds people's power dear must support the survey being conducted by the CPRF—against the extension of the Federal Assembly's term of office and for early presidential elections."

Vladimir Isakov made a report on the legal subject. Calling on the communists to act within the bounds of law, Mr. Isakov said that Yeltsin could be ousted as early as right that moment in accordance with the current Constitution, to which the president should have given an oath of allegiance under Article 92 but has failed to do as yet. At the same time, citing figures published by the Central Electoral Commission, Mr. Isakov questioned the legitimacy of "the Constitution itself."

Dwelling on privatization-related problems, Vladimir Isakov said that "civil wars break out when two people acquire ownership rights to one and the same thing." In Russia, the doctor of law said, "Some have acquired these rights by edicts, while others by laws." Mr. Isakov thinks it inadvisable to "liquidate" achievements of privatization, however, and suggests that three groups of the population should "be dealt with" separately. Those who have obtained property in compliance with the law will not be touched. Nor will those lose their property who obtained it in violation of the law—what they need is just to make good the violations that have been committed. If property has been obtained by criminal means, however, legal action will be imminent.

The discussion on economic problems was wound up by Veniamin Sokolov, former speaker of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet [as published]. In order to illustrate the acuteness of the economic situation in the country, Mr. Sokolov quoted liberally from a book by presidential adviser Aleksandr Livshits. Mr. Sokolov envisioned a way out "along paths different from what the government is suggesting." But to embark on a different economic path, Mr. Sokolov said, "a corresponding political situation" is essential. At the same time, Mr. Sokolov stated that "one should not adopt a vengeful posture, or else we will all be drowned in blood," and urged his comrades to be guided by what is economically advisable: "We should create conditions so that million of dollars circulating abroad will flow back to Russia."

Having made up their minds in the scientific-practical sense, Mr. Zyuganov's communists left the conference to continue raising signatures under their survey in the remaining days of memory.

Official Calls for Unification of Opposition

LD2409200894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1927 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Kharchenko]

[Text] Rzhev, the Tver region, September 24 TASS—Viktor Anpilov, chairman of the Labor Russia movement's executive committee and secretary of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Workers' Party, called for unification of all opposition forces at a rally of local party organization here today.

In his opinion, the opposition should have a single candidate at the upcoming presidential elections.

Ex-Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy described the opposition situation as "political farce" when visiting Ryazan on September 23. He told ITAR-TASS during a recent rally in Moscow he will not run for president or parliament member. In the words of Rutskoy, some opposition leaders "have tried on 'Napoleon's cocked hat' and imagine themselves no less than future presidents."

Zaveryukha, Lapshin To Form United Agrarian Movement

LD2309165094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1453 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—Russian Vice-premier in Charge of the Agro-Industrial Complex Aleksandr Zaveryukha has called for toughened and limited food imports to Russia.

The imported food often has poor quality, and the cheapness chase may "affect the consumers and ruin Russian producers," Zaveryukha told ITAR-TASS.

He admitted recession of agricultural production despite a certain rise in the private agrarian sector. The vice-premier urged the introduction of customs dues and allocations as part of the state support to Russian producers.

Zaveryukha refuted media reports claiming his considerable differences with Agrarian Party leader Mikhail Lapshin. "We have met to agree on joint efforts. What is more, we are planning to form a united agrarian movement to involve all the agrarian producers," he said.

Agrarian Leader Calls for Government Resignation

LD2409172594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1533 GMt 24 Sep 94

[Text] "The Russian government must resign, as the Russian Farmers' Congress demanded in August and the Congress of Opposition leaders on September 16," Chairman of the Federation Council's Committee for Agrarian Policies Vyacheslav Zvolinskiy told Interfax. He said that the Russian people must not allow this government to survive until 1995, because it neglected the Federation Council's decisions and continued to pursue a hasty and contradictor policy of reforms. In the agrarian sector this policy is often erroneous, he said.

The government's policies have caused agricultural production to go down by 50 percent, he went on to say.

Russia continues to increase the imports of foods stuff which, according to the European classification, are intended for third world countries and which contain preservatives. Such food stuffs represent a health hazard and are not on sale in the producer countries, he said.

Peasants Ask Federal Assembly To Adopt Land Code

LD2609095894 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] The executive committee of the Peasants' Party of Russia has called on deputies to the Federal Assembly to adopt a land code this autumn. It stresses in a document that the constitutional right to private ownership of land has so far remained an empty promise. This is not only impeding agricultural reform but is also turning Russian agriculture into an impoverished sector of the economy, although the black market in land is flourishing.

Burbulis Calls for Formation of Right-of-Center Party

LD2309195494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1805 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Russian Deputy Gennadiy Burbulis who is also in charge of the center for humanitarian studies and strategies has called for the creation of a right-of-center party with a power base among intellectuals, small businessmen and the middle class.

Speaking in the Siberian city of Omsk on Friday, he said that together with Social Democrats, the new party could hold the balance of power in the center capable of confronting extreme groups such as communists and nationalists.

On the next presidential election, Burbulis said that everything must be done to help Boris Yeltsin to culminate his presidency with grace and preserve the potential of democratic groups until the spring of 1996.

On would-be candidates for the Russian presidency, he rejected out of hand that Sobchak, Shakhray, Luzhkov or Yavlinskiy would win the election.

Burbulis is on a three day tour of the Omsk region to try to get first hand information about relations between the local government and entrepreneurs.

Kostikov on Forming New Social Democratic Party

LD2409193194 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Vyacheslav Kostikov, the Russian president's press secretary, regards the setting up of the United Democratic Center a very positive event worthy of public support. The founding congress of this new social democratic organization opened on Saturday in Moscow. If the setting up of the new party goes to plan, Vyacheslav Kostikov told INTERFAX, than a significant number of people who sympathize with social democratic views might leave the Zyuganov-Zhirinovskiy-Rutskoy camp, whose method is social demagogy.

'United Democratic Center' Holds Founding Congress

LD2409150094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1153 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

(Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—A founding congress of a new public and political organisation—the United Democratic Centre—opened today at the Column Hall of the House of Unions in Moscow. The Centre rallies regional branches of 30 democratically-oriented political parties and movements from 45 regions of the country. Primary organisations of the United Democratic Centre have already been created in ten of them. The parties and movements include the Democratic Party of Russia, Yabloko, the Russian Party of Unity and Accord and Russia's Democratic Choice.

According to Ilya Roytman, director of the Institute of Politics and International Relations and one of the initiators of the convocation of the congress, its task is to "unite all democratic forces at the time, when democracy is just being created in the country." He believes that in the future the Centre will help democratic organisations in provinces to prepare candidates for the next elections to the State Duma. He is sure that if democrats are not united, they will lose the elections.

The congress is being attended by deputies to the Federal Assembly and well-known political and public figures, for example, Aleksandr Yakovlev and Gavriil Popov.

Participants in the congress are going to create a system of training and educating future deputies to the State Duma. They are unanimous in their opinion that if they do not do that, the united opposition forces will win the next elections.

They believe the creation of the United Democratic Centre will become a natural result of everyday work of democratically-oriented regional branches of political parties and movements, which have already created various associations of democratic forces in provinces.

The founding congress of the United Democratic Centre will continue its work on Sunday. It is expected to elect steering and coordinating bodies and to adopt the charter of the new organisation.

Democrats Appeal Against Regime in Maritime Kray

LD2409205694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1321 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Sep—Among the themes discussed by the political council of the Russia's Democratic Choice Party today was that of glaring human rights violations in the Maritime region. At the concluding news conference, the party leader, Yegor Gaydar, claimed that the: Level of the outrage being committed by the Maritime Kray administration is making a nonsense of talk of democracy and human rights in Russia.

He emphasized that freedom of speech, the inviolability of a person's dwelling, confidentiality of correspondence, and the other basic principles of a democratic society are being grossly flouted in that region. A lengthy report by experts who had spent time in the region served as the grounds for drawing such conclusions. This visit had been prompted by a broad stream of indignant letters received by the party's political council from the Maritime Kray.

According to one of the authors of the report, Aleksandr Bevz, executive director of the Civic Society Fund: An authoritarian, criminal regime has emerged in the Maritime region under the leadership of head of administration Yevgeniy Nazdratenko, human rights are being violated and the raw materials base is being seized by a small group. The growth of separatist tendencies enabled him to say that what was at stake was: Not merely the idea of democracy but the integrity of Russia.

Gaydar said that the political council of Russia's Democratic Choice Party had taken the decision to appeal to the president, the government, and the human rights representative to carry out a complex check on the economic and financial activities of the kray administration, investigate violations of human rights and civic liberties, and take measures to restore the freedom of the press and a number of other measures.

The appeal goes on to demand the suspension of the gubernatorial election in the kray set for 7 October, which has been set with glaring violations of the Russian legislature, and which is aimed at strengthening the position of the kray administration even further. This request was also supported by the movements led by Sergey Shakhray, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, and Boris Fedorov. If the election is not suspended in spite of this, the party leaders plan to call on their supporters in the Maritime region to boycott it, Gaydar said.

Filatov Interviewed on Siege Anniversary

LD2609104294 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0654 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] In one way or another, all Russian citizens are experiencing a rerun of the stormy events which took place in September-October last year. Some are excited by the scent of bloodshed. Others are tired of political intrigue and are just hoping there will be no civil war in Russia. Still others are more concerned with material well-being and the state of the Russian economy. So, a year has passed since the president issued his decree number 1400 which helped to normalize the economic situation.

Our special correspondent, Tatyana Chemodanova, talks to Sergey Aleksandrovich Filatov, head of the Russian president's administration:

[Begin recording] [Chemodanova] Sergey Aleksandrovich, briefly, what do you regard as the principal achievements of this year?

[Filatov] Above all, the reshaping of power in the component parts of the federation. I think only two of our republics have not yet completed this process. Unfortunately, that is why they are now embroiled in conflict. I think the most important result of this political year is the fact that we have achieved a kind of political stability in society. Fear of collapse and war, fear of the future in general has vanished. I think that the Treaty on Public Accord is a very great achievement which, fortunately, is not ephemeral or short-term. We continue to take it very seriously.

We are now trying to do some serious work on arrangements for cooperation between all those involved in this treaty—there are about a thousand of these representatives. The idea is that they should take part in the drafting of agreed provisions, based on arbitration, for laws, for the president, presidential decrees, for the government, and so on. Incidentally, the Treaty on Public Accord has obliged the government, too, to work more intensively on the question of payments and improvement of the taxation system.

Second, of course, that has allowed us to have more positive results in the economy because the inflationary process is connected directly to the stability of society. There are, of course, forces for whom it is very advantageous to have an inflationary process and very high inflation because that goes well with the criminal world and with various infringements.

[Chemodanova] What do you think needs to be worked on in the long term and in the short term?

[Filatov] Well, there is a very great deal of work to be done. I think that what is very important now is to finish the work on local self-government. That's the work of more than one year. Subjects of the federation need to be helped to smooth out the legislative process because a great deal will depend on that.

Third, the structures and interaction of the authorities and the subjects of the federation must be defined absolutely clearly. The two, elected by the people, must find ways to interact. Isn't that so? Therefore, the main task of those elected by the people in the representative body of power is to make laws, that is to draw up regulations for operating. The main task of the president and the government which is formed with him is to govern the country acting in accordance with these regulations. We have still to do all of that substantially. And then there is the economic reform which will have stages of its own and a set path of its own next year, in 1995. And a program for 1995-1997, some guidelines are being drawn up now.

[Chemodanova] Are there any fears these days about these events, as far as the opposition is concerned?

[Filatov] As long as there are bellicose people who do not hide their stake on the military option then, of course, there is such a danger.

[Chemodanova] So it's tangible?

[Filatov] Well, I wouldn't let my guard down. Therefore, of course, they might do something irresponsible, something brutal. But I am still far from what you are thinking—that they might blow up or attack the White House or the Kremlin—but it's best not to let one's vigilance slacken here. [end recording]

Yakovlev on New Constitution, Democratic Process

LD2409145594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1308 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—The new Russian Constitution gives the opposition a chance to come to power in a democratic way, Chairman of the organizational committee for the United Social-Democratic Movement Aleksandr Yakovlev told the constituent congress of the "United Democratic Center" public-political organization here today. Yakovlev was invited to attend the congress as a guest.

The Center involves representatives of regional branches of 30 democratic political parties and movements.

In the words of Yakovlev, all the Russian political forces, including the opposition, must act within the constitutional framework. The opposition leaders understand they can come to power in a constitutional way, and they are uniting while the democrats are not. Yakovlev thinks that the word "unification" must be sacred for the democratic forces, only then Russia will continue progressing along the reform path.

Union of Governors Calls for Definition of Status

LD2309195694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1805 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The Union of Russian Governors has put forward proposals to the Yeltsin administration for defining their status, an administration official of the Yaroslavl region told Interfax.

The bill was fleshed out during a recent meeting by Russian governors in Yaroslavl.

The Russian president is asked to endorse interim regulations on the governors' status and instruct his administration and the Russian government to prepare bills on regional government and civil service in the next three months. These will later go before the State Duma.

The interim regulations provide for the appointment and dismissal of governors to the Russian president and their accountability to the head of state and government alone.

Under the new regulation, the governor is banned from running for local parliament while in office. He also has powers to name candidates for appointment to the posts of regional police departments, committees and property funds and other federal bodies on the ground.

The governors ask to be allowed to endorse local laws and other legal acts. The governor enjoys immunity and can be arrested only on a warrant from the prosecutor general. The Supreme Court can alone consider any criminal charges brought against him.

Public Chamber Meets in Kremlin

LD2409163794 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A sitting of the Public Chamber, which comes under the president of the Russian Federation, took place in the Kremlin today. We think that the following fact will illustrate how acute the problem of ensuring the rights and liberties of citizens in Russia remains: Today in the Public Chamber, which comes under the president, even after preliminary preparations so many proposals had arisen that a commission had to be set up to take them into account. The draft recommendations that will land on the president's table note that the situation regarding the rights connected with freedom to travel and with servicemen, migrants, and prisoners is getting worse—this is a matter of effective protection of citizens against the arbitrariness of bureaucrats. The citizens' right to freely engage in economic activity is not being observed. The surge in crime was discussed in particular.

Previously, the Public Chamber had suggested to the Russian president that he repeal his edict on fighting banditry, which had only given the law enforcement bodies a free hand to do what they want. In this connection the point in the recommendations about reinforcing public control over the activities of law enforcement bodies appears somewhat naive. After all, this is a matter for the legislators, the commissions of the Federal Assembly, which do not carry out their control functions. On the whole the situation as regards human rights is evaluated by the Public Chamber as dangerous to society and the development of democracy.

A report on progress in fulfilling the Public Accord Treaty was delivered at the chamber sitting by Sergey Filatov, head of the presidential administration. In the participants' view, the treaty itself has stabilized the situation in society.

The Public Chamber made an appeal to those who have not yet signed the treaty to take the path of accord and cooperation.

Cancellation of Anticrime Decree Proposed

LD2409171894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1533 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] The Public Chamber under the Russian president recommended to President Boris Yeltsin to cancel his anti-crime decree of June 14.

The Public Chamber met in Moscow today. Its members said they believed that the situation with human rights in Russia was dangerous from the point of view of democratic development of the society and its moving towards the state of law.

The participants in the meeting stressed that the situation with human rights had deteriorated in several spheres, including free moving, the rights of servicemen, the situation with refugees and displaced persons and with prisoners.

The members of the Public Chamber said the right for free economic activities was not respected either. They said they were specially concerned over the present situation in Russia under which it was practically impossible to enjoy the rights for award for work, for protection from unemployment and for guaranteed social security.

The Public Chamber recommended that the president include a provision on human rights into his annual president's message. The president was also recommended to amend the draft law on commissioner for human rights in Russia when it was considered by the State Duma in the second reading by including into it a provision providing for his participation in legislative activities.

Salmin Appointed Public Political Center Chairman

LD2309160594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1356 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Moscow September 23 ITAR-TASS—Former presidential political adviser Sergey Stankevich has been relieved of his duties as chairman of the board of the Russian Public Political Centre and replaced with Yeltsin's new appointee Aleksey Salmin, the press service of the president of the Russian Federation informed ITAR-TASS today.

The centre in question was designed to ensure political interaction between political parties, public organisations and social-political associations on the one hand and the bodies of state authority of the Russian Federation on the other.

Yeltsin's ordinance makes changes to the regulations on the centre and approves a new composition of the centre's board.

Radio Moscow To Cut Broadcast Time, Languages

LD2309170294 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] And now a special announcement. It is with much regret that we have to inform our listeners that Radio Moscow is cutting transmission time and reducing the number of languages in which we broadcast. Starting with this Sunday [25 September], it will be broadcasting 120 hours daily in 38 languages instead of 46. The only reason for this are the company's financial difficulties. Budget allocations have been reduced for all government financed radio and television channels in the country.

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Orders New 1995-97 Economic Program

LD2409144794 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1300 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Council of Ministers, has ordered the drafting of a new government program for developing reforms in the Russian economy for 1995-97. This three-year program is to be submitted to him in November.

Chernomyrdin Reports to Yeltsin on Sverdlovsk Visit

LD2409140294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1256 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin informed President Yeltsin of results of his trip to the Sverdlovsk region before Yeltsin's departure to London. The prime minister spoke about problems of the major industrial center of the southern Urals, the majority of whose plants are defence.

In the opinion of Chernomyrdin, a stable future of the defence plants after the end of the Cold War can be ensured by double-use technologies. "Today the defence plants cannot plan their fiscal year on the basis of the state order alone. They should use highly-skilled personnel to develop conversion. A defence plant cannot survive on inconsiderable products," Chernomyrdin told staffers of the defence plants.

"There will be no Russia without a powerful Defence Ministry," the premier told the local administration and plant heads in Yekaterinburg on Friday. It is impossible to have a powerful Defence Ministry when the majority of defence plants do not know what to do after the parliament curtailed the budget and the state defence order, he added.

The order should be made for three-five years, so that Russia keeps its international priorities in creation of science-consuming armaments, said Chernomyrdin. In his words, the government will immediately start discussing the financing of the 1995 state defence order. The Cabinet of Ministers also plans to submit a draft 1995 budget to the State Duma on October 1, 1994.

"Certainly, the demands of the Russian military-industrial complex should abide by the new state military doctrine. However, if this doctrine gains no support, it must be changed," said the premier.

Viktor Glukhikh, chairman of the Russian State Committee for the Defence Industry who accompanied Chernomyrdin in his trip to the Sverdlovsk region, told ITAR-TASS that Russia is facing a fierce resistance of Western competitors on the international markets of science-consuming arms. Bearing in mind the Russian budget deficit, Russian withdrawal from the world arms market may result in the loss of its defenceability since the country will not have money for costly development of new weaponry, he added.

When in Nizhni Tagil and Yekaterinburg, the prime minister focused on the non-payment problem. In his words, delayed salaries are the worst aspect of this problem. The government makes some concessions to the plants-debtors which produce competitive products, said the premier. He warned plant directors of the need to pay salaries in due time.

On Friday the prime minister visited a Yekaterinburg metro station under construction. The first urals metro was built with active assistance of Boris Yeltsin, who at that time headed the region. Economic difficulties have affected the project financing, and the premier promised the soonest allocation of 50 billion rubles from the federal funds to build the new metro line. Some 20 billions will be transferred in the immediate future. Metro builders invited the president and the premier to attend the station's opening ceremony in late December.

Soskovets Views Economic Problems, Successes

MM2309124494 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Sep 94 pp 1-2

[Interview with Russian Federation First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets prepared by Sergey Mashtakov under the "In the First Person" rubric; place and date not given: "Relying Only on Ourselves for Now"]

[Text] [Mashtakov] Oleg Nikolayevich, voices rating the situation in the Russian economy as catastrophic have recently begun to be heard increasingly frequently in the mass media. To what extent, in your opinion, do such statements correspond to reality?

[Soskovets] I will not dispute the fact that the economic situation in the country remains complex. In my view, however, it would be wrong to overdramatize the situation. I have said before that the course of our reforms resembles a vehicle's movement along a narrow road running between progress and chaos—both economic and social. The experience of the majority of former socialist countries, including Russia, shows that the transformation of a planned economy into a market economy is attended by a special kind of economic crisis, which scientists call **transitional**. During this period no measures by the central power are capable of preventing a natural slump in the economy.

At the same time I can declare in all responsibility that, however grave the economic situation in the country, it is certainly not facing collapse. Today Russia is much further away from one than it was at the end of 1991. When it comes right down to it, we have succeeded in resolving several superimportant tasks in the space of a few years: We have liberalized the economy, eliminated lines and shortages, and accumulated currency reserves. Moreover, in this area we have overtaken by a long way our neighbors in the near abroad. The fact alone that the ruble remains a stable means of payment on the territory of the former USSR speaks in Russia's favor.

[Mashtakov] How great is the production slump this year, and what are the causes of it?

[Soskovets] The overall reduction in industrial production volumes in the first half of 1994 stood at approximately 26 percent. The main reasons for the slump were the sharp cutback in the defense order and the state investment program, the reduction in deliveries of Russian output to CIS countries, the drop in effective demand, and also the imperfect nature of the necessary normative acts and the delay in adopting them.

A drop in production volumes at an increasing rate was observed at the beginning of the year in processing sectors: Productivity in machine building, for example, fell 44.9 percent, in the chemical and petrochemical industries 35.4 percent, and in light industry 41.1 percent. The fuel and energy complex worked more stably: Extraction of gas fell just 2 percent, coal 10 percent, and gas condensate 15 percent. At the same time the reduction in fuel extraction was caused in the majority of instances by customer nonpayment.

A considerable fall in production volumes was also noted among enterprises producing consumer goods. It is no secret that the stabilization that has become apparent in the Russian consumer market is today being maintained by imported goods. The reasons for this situation lie not only in the uncompetitiveness of Russian output. At present many Russian enterprises are poor at forecasting the demand for their products and are not always sensitive to the market situation.

To be fair, it must be pointed out that the difficulties being experienced by the Russian economy today result from failings of past economic management, when industrial potential was created regardless of the economic validity of the aims and was poorly linked to consumer needs.

Undoubtedly, without structural reorganization and investment of money in Russian industry there can be no question of efficient management in a market economy. But this is just one aspect of the problem. Another one is how quickly Russian enterprises adapt to the new system of economic management.

[Mashtakov] How long, in your view, might this process last?

[Soskovets] Here a very great deal depends on the leaders' personal qualities and also on the enterprise's place and role in the region's infrastructure. Today there is a whole number of enterprises which have not only entered splendidly into market conditions but are also building up production volumes. Among the leaders for individual types of output I can name the "Kuznetskiy Metallurgicheskiy Kombinat" Joint-Stock Company, the Oskolskiy Electrometallurgical Combine, the Dorogobuzh "Minudobreniya" Joint-Stock Company, the Berezniki Chemical Plant, the Altay "Sinteticheskoye Volokno" Joint-Stock Company, the "Uralskiy Shinnyy Zavod" Joint-Stock Company, the "Moskovskiy Shinnyy Zavod" Joint-Stock Company, the "Onezhskiy Gidroliznyy Zavod" Joint-Stock Company, the Georgiyevsk Biochemical Plant, the Kaluga Turbine Plant, the "Ulyanovskiy Avtomobilnyy Zavod" Joint-Stock Company, the Vladimir "Shveymash" Plant, the "Baumanets" Joint-Stock Company, the Navoloki Cotton Combine, etc. I will add only that at the end of 1993 the proportion of enterprises with rising indicators relating to output volume stood at 43 percent.

[Mashtakov] Oleg Nikolayevich, you mentioned the problem of nonpayment. Over the past two months the government's chief headache has been to improve the system of mutual transactions among enterprises. I realize it is a short time, but, nevertheless, what has been done during it?

[Soskovets] The nonpayment problem is a very complex issue, and it would be premature to speak of any results at present. But the first signs that the government is capable of resolving this problem have already begun to appear. I can cite as a specific example the general agreement signed recently among the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Fuel and Energy, the Russian Federation Committee for Metallurgy, the "Rosugol" State Enterprise, and the "YeES

Rossii" Russian Joint-Stock Company. The purpose of this agreement is to coordinate joint actions in creating conditions for the stable functioning of these sectors' enterprises during the 1994-1995 fall and winter period on the basis of stabilizing prices and tariffs and improving transactions for output supplied and services rendered.

In addition to our full support for this initiative, a government decree on joint actions by the base sectors to stabilize prices and tariffs was issued 9 September. In particular, the Ministry of Finance was instructed, for the purposes of resolving as quickly as possible the problem of nonpayment among enterprises in the sectors which signed the agreement, to ensure the issue of treasury bonds within the limits of the federal budget, with a view to subsequently offsetting these bonds against enterprises' tax payments to the federal treasury.

In the government's view this agreement must be the first specific step to improve the system of mutual transactions between individual enterprises. As regards solving the nonpayment problem as a whole, I repeat that it is premature to speak of this. Particularly as we will not see the results of the work done within the framework of the agreement concluded any sooner than the first quarter of next year.

[Mashtakov] Do priorities exist today in the policy that the government is pursuing to neutralize the most painful processes in the Russian economy?

[Soskovets] I would single out three areas that are objects of constant attention on the government's part. There is, above all, support at the state level for indigent sections of the population and for sectors of the national economy which are strategically important to the country and which are today incurring losses that are unjustified and sometimes difficult to replace: the fuel and energy complex, agriculture, enterprises in the military-industrial complex, freight shipments, etc.

Then comes financial support for adapting Russia's scientific and technical potential to market relations and encouragement of the development of modern competitive technologies in aircraft building, the aerospace complex, the electronics and laser industries, nuclear power generation, and other industrial sectors.

Third and finally—the closure of loss-making enterprises which lack prospects for growth in the domestic and world markets, as well as the funding of social programs for when unprofitable production processes are curtailed.

[Mashtakov] The rate of inflation has fallen noticeably in recent months. Does this mean that we have begun little by little to pull ourselves from the inflationary quagmire?

[Soskovets] The slowing of inflationary processes is the first tangible result of the economic reforms being implemented in the country, and this cannot fail to gladden us. A further casue for optimism is the fact that the proinflationary conduct of many producers is gradually being broken. Recent polls of leaders of industrial enterprises show that the number of producers who do not intend to increase the prices of their output has more than trebled compared with April of this year. Such anti-inflationary sentiments have not been observed since July 1992. But I would refrain from claiming that we have fully conquered inflation. The quite large budget deficit caused by the sharp fall in the share of tax receipts relating to virtually all types of taxes, the slump in the production sphere, and much besides remain a potential source of inflation.

[Mashtakov] At present you are actively involved in attracting foreign investments into the Russian economy. How successful has this been?

[Soskovets] Attracting and making efficient use of foreign investments is one of the most important tools for restructuring and stabilizing the Russian economy. Our country's very geographic location, its natural resources, and its highly educated population by world standards are attractive to foreign businessmen. But the attracting of foreign investments must be backed up by appropriate economic mechanisms and legal guarantees—something that we do not yet have to a sufficient degree.

In addition, for foreign capital to flow into our economy we need economic and political stability in the country, without which investors will regard any capital investments as too risky. Second, it is necessary to create favorable conditions for the investment of these very funds. We have already done some things. For example, equal conditions with Russian businessmen have already been created for foreign entrepreneurs, but we still have to do substantial additional work on the mechanism of guarantees that the foreign investor can remove his money at any time and that nobody has the right to prevent him from doing so.

But let us be realists. It is obvious that without an improvement in the Russian economy and a reduction in the level of inflation it would be naive to reckon seriously on attracting private capital on a large scale. Therefore today we must rely, above all, on our own forces and on our own scientific, technical, and production potential, with its tremendous possibilities and high technology.

Favors Some Economic Control Measures

LD2309164794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1448 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—Russian First Vice-Premier Oleg Soskovets believes the government's main task today is to "ensure the controllability of the process of economic reforms and to neutralise negative after-effects."

Addressing today a meeting called to discuss the progress of economic reforms in Moscow region, Soskovets said that the government planned to focus its efforts on three principal tasks—support to effectively operating enterprises and to investment projects promising quick recoupment, transition to the second stage of privatisation, creation of conditions for attracting domestic and foreign investments, and social support to particularly needy sections of the population.

Soskovets believes the current state of the Russian society is comparable to the situation that existed in the country from December 1991 to January 1992. "The Russian economy," he said, "has reached the difficult stage of bankruptcies and increasing unemployment." Forecasting possible unemployment in the Russian society, the first vice-premier singled out two levels of this process: regional and local. He believes that most dangerous is the possible stoppage of enterprises, on which the life of a whole town depends.

Soskovets expounded on the problem of mutual payments among enterprises. Admitting that this problem was typical for all the East European countries with a transitional economy, the first vice-premier noted that the situation with defaulted payments became particularly acute in the spring of 1994. The total sum of unpaid debts in July amounted to 42 trillion roubles. Soskovets thinks this is explained mainly by the unfinished structural reform of the national economy. He stated in this connection that the recently set up government commission for defaulted payments had drawn up several draft presidential decrees and government decisions. They include documents on the improvement of the system of payments and on the transfer of all the accounts of enterprises to banks, etc. At the same time, a new system of accounting will be introduced shortly at Russian enterprises.

Shokhin Wants Lukoil Officials Punished

LD2509133594 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] The Russian state bureaucrats involved in drawing up the international Caspian Sea oil drilling contract should be severely punished, says Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin. He drew attention to the fact that the state has a controlling share in the oil company, Lukoil, which is taking part in the project.

[Begin Shokhin recording] The government representatives in the council of directors clearly did not do their work and this once again confirms that we need to speed up introduction of a mechanism enabling the state to be represented in joint stock companies in which the state has shares, all the more so where it's a controlling share. The mechanism envisaged in the president's summer decree. This means that any contracts signed must take strict account of the responsibilities such a representative would undertake and they should be relieved of their posts if they fail to take account of the state's interests. We'll see in the near future whether this will be introduced with Lukoil, but we have to make a start, that is certain. [end recording]

R1 Trillion To Be Allocated for Wage Arrears

LD2309161294 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The government will allocate 1 trillion rubles [R] to paying off wage arrears. This was stated today by Aleksandr Smirnov, head of the chief directorate of the Federal Treasury of the Russian Finance Ministry. The total amount earmarked for these purposes will amount to some R2 trillion.

This measure by the executive power will at least, to some extent, resolve a very difficult economic problem.

Moscow To Focus on Attracting Private Investment

LD2309193294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1628 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The decline in output in Russia has reached a "maximum level, rarely registered in other countries." This year's drop in output against 1991 is over 50 percent, Director of the Analytic Center under the Russian president Yevgeniy Yasin said during the monthly meeting over lunch in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce today.

Yasin said that as a result of this the government was expecting social tension to rise. He added that not only the opposition but also a large part of the intelligentsia and other sections of the population could come out against the president. Yasin said this would make the background for the elections in 1996 even more complex.

Yasin said that, however, the government was somewhat optimistic despite the fact that Russia was currently going through the hardest stage of the reforms. He said the optimism was based on the real achievements in the struggle with inflation.

Yasin said the Russian government had already worked out a program for reforms in 1995-1997 concentrating on three tasks, including revitalizing the economy, strengthening the state institutions and increasing investments.

Yasin said Russia would first of all aim at attracting private investments, including foreign ones. That is why the government intends to take the most radical measures for improving the investment climate in Russia, he added. He said that within seven or fifteen days the government was expected to sign a resolution in accordance with which value added tax on imported goods would not be collected for a second time in Russia if it was collected in the exporting country. The draft resolution said that the exchange rate of the dollar would not be taken into consideration when collecting profit tax.

Furthermore, the tax on exceeding the set limit for wages is expected to be lifted from January 1995 for foreign enterprises and from January 1996 for Russian enterprises.

Bank Official Explains Ruble Fall Against Dollar

LD2309153694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1334 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS analyst Mikhail Krushinskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—A Central Bank official told ITAR-TASS today that the 125-point jump in the dollar exchange rate against the rouble registered at the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange on Thursday was a result of calculations in the Central Bank which is now trying to gauge a new level of "equilibrium" between the rouble and the dollar.

The official, head of the department of the Central Bank's foreign operations Aleksandr Potemkin told ITAR-TASS that the dollar's 45-point drop on Friday was a usual reaction on the part of the market, which over-reacted to a new trend at first and came back to its senses the next morning.

Potemkin said that demand for foreign currency began to rise steeply in the middle of August, which forced the Central Bank to rethink its exchange rate policy.

The pace at which the rouble was sliding downward during the period of relative quiet was about one percent a week, but then the pace nearly doubled. A situation gradually arose in which any further increase in the Central Bank's currency interventions could have entailed the weakening of its potential on the currency market.

"We understood that a policy of gradual slide-down was entering a contradiction with the bank's desire to preserve its gold and currency reserves at a high level. We understood that it is necessary to take steps on the market which would allow us to identify a new equilibrium in the exchange rate. On September 22, we practically stopped selling currency to support it," Potemkin said.

The Central Bank official refused to predict further developments, and only noted that the Central Bank was groping for a new level of stability on the currency market and will continue doing this in the nearest future.

Gaydar on Fall in Ruble Exchange Rate

LD2509124794 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] A sharp fall in the ruble rate at currency trading in Moscow last week was a result of considerable weakening the monetary policy last summer, thinks Yegor Gaydar, leader of the Democratic Choice of Russia Party. Unfortunately, my expectations have come true, he said at a press conference in Moscow. In Gaydar's words, contented moods have prevailed: Inflation is going down so one might try dispensing money.

According to INTERFAX, Yegor Gaydar also expressed the opinion that what had happened had crossed out to a large extent the results of the efforts made in the sphere during the last year.

Military & Nuclear Issues

Topol Strategic Missile Successfully Tested

LD2409100194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0924 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Mirnyy, Arkhangelsk Region September 24 TASS—A tactical specialised exercise ended today at the state test site of the Strategic Missile Troops. A Topol strategic missile was launched on Friday at 19.15, Moscow time [1515 GMT]. The head of the missile hit the target in the designated area of the training ground on the Kamchatka peninsula.

Colonel General Igor Sergeyev, commander-in-chief of the Strategic Missile Troops, told ITAR-TASS today that the exercise had been conducted in accordance with a plan. It summed up the results of the summer training of one of the units of the Strategic Missile Troops. Other countries were informed of the launching of the missile.

Sergeyev pointed out that the state test site was a unique research and engineering complex, used for testing weapons and improving the skill of officers and men of the missile troops.

In his opinion, the latest exercise showed once again the high professional skill of the missile troops. He said, that in accordance with the existing international agreement, the telemetric information will be handed on a parity basis to a similar test site of the U.S. missile forces.

Details of 'Topol' Missile Test Aired

LD2409205094 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] [Video shows rocket being launched] Boris Yeltsin intends to represent a great power in London, in Washington, and at the United Nations - this was the tone of comments preceding the president's visit. Great power means nuclear power. The question of the Russian nuclear potential will be one of the most difficult ones at the negotiations between Yeltsin and Clinton. It might be not purely accidental that the training launch of the SS-25 strategic nuclear missile coincided with the start of the visit. Our special correspondent Aleksandr Gerasimov reports from Plesetsk:

[Gerasimov] At the Plesetsk test range a regiment of the Omsk missile division finished tactical exercises today after rehearsing combat action in war conditions. The launch of the "Topol" mobile missile yesterday was the highlight of the exercises. Twenty-five minutes after Major Gayduchak had pressed the button, a dummy of the nuclear warhead hit the target on the territory of Kamchatka.

Two goals were practised at the exercises: raising the combat capability of duty units of strategic missile troops—an officer must know how to press not only a dummy button—and testing a new batch of SS-25 missiles which will be supplied to the troops in the near future. The launched missile was chosen at random from 16 installations. This "Topol" is one of the latest ones manufactured within the framework of cooperation between CIS countries. Russia is moving to autonomous production in order to protect itself from possible consequences of political disagreements with former fraternal republics.

As we have learned, a new Topol-M missile has already been assembled, using only Russian parts. The military are planning to test it before the end of this year. Unless the problems of non- payments intervene, of course.

On the day of the launch, electricity was cut off from the Plesetsk test range, just as three days ago at the central command center. The missile troops owe Arkhangelsk power engineers as much as they do to everybody else.

This time, there was also a happy ending.

Official on Chemical Weapons' Destruction

LD2209183094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1648 GMT 22 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Karlov]

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—In the chemical war, about the beginning of which we were not at all informed, the environment and public health are always the sufferers. We know that about 800 thousand tonnes of mustard gas was produced in the former Soviet Union, but only one percent of the total volume of this deadly gas was given to us for destroying," Lev Fedorov, doctor of chemical sciences and president of the Russian Union for Chemical Safety, said at a press conference devoted to the U.S.-Russian action "destruction of chemical weapons for environmental safety".

Today the United States and Russia are the only two states possessing chemical weapons. Their storage, transportation and destruction is strictly controlled by the Congress. More so, the population of those places, where poisonous compounds are stored or destroyed, has the last word in the matter. Nevertheless, U.S. citizens, who are dissatisfied with government measures are going to hold protest meetings in several states of the country tomorrow.

Supporting the American collegues' initiative, Russia's environmental protection movement will on the same day picket the Committee for Conventional Problems of Chemical and Biological Weapons. In Russia there are six populated areas, which are potentially dangerous from the point of view of chemical infection. At seven military facilities (all of them are located in residential zones), according to official figures only, which are highly understated, where over 40 thousand tonnes of poisonous compounds are stored, Lev Fedorov said.

Replying to an ITAR-TASS query, the Chemical Safety Union chairman said that the method of burning, which was suggested by the Russian Army, is dangerous for the environment as well as public health. "We are prepared to hold a dialogue with military chemists for working out ecologically pure methods of destruction of chemical weapons," Lev Fedorov said.

After the press conference, ITAR-TASS was told in the press centre of the Russian Ministry of Nature that head of this department Professor Viktor Danilov-Danilyan had quite recently been shown a unique installation for ecologically pure destruction of poisonous compounds developed in one of the scientific research institutes of Moscow.

Arms Destruction May Damage Ecology

LD2309140594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1323 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Karlov]

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—"Chemical arms cannot be destroyed now, bearing in mind neither Russia nor the United States have an efficient and safe technology of their elimination. Today's destruction of poisoning substances will irreparably damage the ecology and human health," human rights activist and Doctor of Chemical Sciences Vil Mirzoyanov told ITAR-TASS here today. Mirzoyanov was recently accused of alleged disclosure of a new chemical arms formula.

The interview was given at the doorway of the presidential administration's building, where the Khranitely Radugi (Rainbow Protectors) public ecological organization protested against the on-going elimination of chemical arms.

In the words of Mirzoyanov, on September 28 the Russian Supreme Court is expected to consider his action brought against the department for visas and registration, which refuses to issue passports for foreign trips to people who worked in the military-industrial complex and possess allegedly secret information. The scientist himself has received such a passport, but he is alarmed with the fact his former colleagues cannot do it.

Nuclear Submarine Works Brought to Standstill

MK2409103094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "One More Military Installation Left Without Electricity"]

[Text] All enterprises have come to a standstill for the first time in the 60 years of the existence of Severodvinsk, where they build nuclear submarines. The "Arkhenergo" joint-stock company, which military plants in Severodvinsk owe some 70 billion rubles, has shut down heat and power station No. 2 due to lack of fuel. The power suppliers have no money to buy fuel oil with owing to nonpayments.

Pacific Fleet Receives New Nuclear Submarine

LD2609102294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0951 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—The Russian Pacific Fleet received a new nuclear submarine, the press service of the fleet reported on Monday.

The sub is "intended for patrolling ocean communications in conditions of long-term self-supporting navigation and for fulfilling other multi-purpose missions", the press service told TASS and added that the submarine was launched "according to shipbuilding plans of the Russian Navy".

Yeltsin Edict on Nuclear Supervision Welcomed

MM2309111094 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Sep 94 First Edition p 2

[Report by Tatyana Smolyakova: "Who Guarantees Security"]

[Text] Today sees the publication of the Russian Federation presidential edict "On Priority Measures to Improve the System for Accounting for and Storing Nuclear Materials" (page 4).

Recently the mass media has increasingly frequently featured reports on thefts of radioactive materials. Although we are already, regrettably, inured to theft, this kind of theft still gives you the creeps. What we are concerned about is not so much who has encroached on state property as what could happen to that property in the wrong hands.

But this is just the tip of the iceberg. What is happening inside enterprises and organizations working with nuclear materials? How reliable is the security system at all the stages of the production, transportation, storage, and utilization of particularly dangerous substances? Unfortunately, nobody can yet give an unambiguous answer to these questions. And not only because the situation itself is different at different installations, but also because hitherto we have had only sectoral normatives for the accounting and safekeeping of nuclear materials—normatives which do not always square with each other. This, experts stress, is why the presidential edict sets the task of elaborating a uniform state security system with uniform regulations and norms for all sectors and a uniform control organ with full powers.

Yes, we have the Russian Federal Inspectorate for Nuclear and Radiation Safety (the Gosatomnadzor), which is required to monitor all enterprises and organizations, irrespective of which department they belong to. But hitherto it has not been really as independent or as all-powerful as we would like.

For instance, it is no secret that there is constant friction between the Gosatomnadzor and the Defense Ministry about allowing inspectors into military installations. Will the new presidential edict solve this problem? Let us hope so. At any rate, making the Gosatomnadzor directly subordinate to the Russian president enhances its independence of government members. And the joint participation of all interested parties in the interdepartmental commission presupposes a quest for mutually acceptable solutions that guarantee state security.

Nuclear Power Plants May Launch Protest Actions

LD2409161994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Russia's nuclear power plants are likely to launch fresh protest action this autumn, a senior official at the Nuclear Energy Ministry said.

Nuclear plant workers receive their wages with one to two month delays, the official told Interfax. Fuel shortages have forced most plants to suspend one or two generating units, he said.

Reactor maintenance work gets slowed down by lack of funds. At the same time, electricity consumers by now owe the plants more than 1.2 trillion rubles.

Last month the workers of the Smolensk and Kalinin plants took protest action demanding wages that were three months overdue and a solution to the consumer arrears problem.

The Nuclear Energy Ministry official said that this time political demands might be added to economic ones. He said such suggestions had already been made at workers' meetings.

By September 1, Russia's nine nuclear plants owed the state 340.165 billion rubles, while their debtors owed them 741.832 billion rubles, the plants' own assets totaling 7.126 billion rubles by that date, according to the Nuclear Energy Ministry.

Firms Propose Alternative on Financing Military Orders

LD2309161394 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0605 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Specialists from Russia's leading engine-building enterprises have proposed an alternative to financing major military orders from the budget. Representatives of serial production and experimental works, design bureaux of Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Omsk, the aviation bank, the Rosvooruzheniye company, and other firms got together on a commercial principle and founded a joint-stock company (Korporatsiya MTA). The shareholders plan to tackle issues of creating competitive aviation equipment, not at the expense of the traditional centralized financing, but through bringing into effect market mechanisms, skillful commercial techniques, and initiatives within the corporation.

Regional Affairs

Moscow Government Debates Privatization Program

MM2609095994 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 22 Sep 94 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Chuprin: "Moscow Has Drawn Up Its Own Privatization Program"]

[Text] The question "On the Main Areas of Privatization After 1 July 1994" was examined at the Moscow government's last session. The results of the first stage of destatization still do not suit either ordinary Muscovites or the city's executive power.

In accordance with earlier adopted documents, leased premises must be sold together with land for a two-year lease payment. The cost is trifling, but the newfound owners frequently do not seek to preserve the enterprise's profile: They dismiss shareholders en masse and use the buildings themselves as a shell where they can organize warehouses or amusement establishments.

Backed by the president's edict of 24 December last year, the Moscow government has drawn up radical measures in privatization which will serve to create really efficient production, attract investments, and bring to light real private owners, not speculators in land and real estate. This was how many members of the government commented on the points of the new program.

First Vice Premier Konstantin Buravlev declared at the session that the success of this large-scale action may bring about a simultaneous and parallel reform of the credit and money system, of tax policy, of conversion technologies, and of other market mechanisms.

In particular, the new document contains a list of enterprises which will not be privatized this year. A restriction of ownership rights is permitted in the city's interests. In addition, the Moscow government has the right to retain 33 percent of enterprises' shares for three years. In order to ensure that this packet is not a dead weight, the government intends to float a loan. The population will buy Moscow bonds, and this constitutes additional investment in city programs.

Local Privatization May Kill Self-Government Law

MK2409100094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 2

[Report by Yelena Tregubova, Petr Zhuravlev under the "Regions" rubric: "Local Authorities Demand That Their Powers Be Legalized. Or Else, They Will Act in Accordance With Their Ambitions and Morals"]

[Text] The Coordinating Council for Collaboration Between the Parliament and Local Authorities of the Russian Federation Components approved at its meeting yesterday in Yaroslavl the concepts of three bills—on principles of the organization of authority in the Federation components; on principles of the delimitation of powers between the center and the regions; and on principles of local self-government. They all will be submitted to the State Duma's fall session.

Mikhail Mityukov, State Duma first deputy speaker, said in his opening address that "the adoption of the bills should mean that the principles of federalism stipulated by the Constitution are being filled out with specific contents." Mr. Mityukov does not think, however, that the issue here is only adherence to the letter of the Constitution. In his words, matters regulated by the bills "have been raised by life itself," and in the absence of a legal framework "they will be resolved by politicians guided by their own ambitions and their own understanding of both legal and moral standards."

As an example, Mr. Mityukov cited the problem of ensuring equality among the Federation components. He said that after some republics have concluded separate treaties on the delimitation of powers, "their former advantage of having a certain volume of rights, particularly in financial and taxation matters, is being restored on a new, not fully constitutional, basis." Protesting against that, the deputy speaker emphasized, the Perm Oblast legislature, for instance, has announced the oblast's withdrawal from the Public Accord Pact. Mikhail Mityukov also noted that "without heeding the regions' opinions on one matter or another, it would be impossible altogether to pass a fully effective legal act."

Valentin Melekhin, chairman of the Yaroslavl Oblast legislature (which is called the Yaroslavl State Duma), told participants in the meeting that local deputies, without waiting for a decision to be made at the federal level, have already passed a law on local self-government and drawn up the charter of Yaroslavl Oblast. These local enforceable enactments, however, as Valentin Melekhin put it, need "an underpinning" from the center. The Yaroslavl speaker promised that as soon as the federal parliament is able to adopt corresponding laws, the oblast Duma will make the requisite amendments to its decrees.

The Yaroslavl leader's view was echoed by chiefs of many territories, such as the speakers of the Khabarovsk and Chita legislatures, who said that the adoption of the laws on local self-government "should be speeded up as much as possible, because only that could help establish constructive cooperation" between the center and the regions, and also between local executive and legislative branches.

Meanwhile, to all appearances, the passing of the Law on the General Principles of Local Self-Government could run into considerable difficulties—after the government meeting on 22 September it turned out that the drafters of the document insist on "suspending" privatization, on the grounds "pending the resolution of the problem of delimiting property rights." Even if at the insistence of Anatoliy Chubays, State Property Committee chairman, this phrasing is taken out, proponents of a freeze on privatization in the regions before property is divided between local authorities are bound to emerge both at the State Duma and the Federation Council.

N. Novgorod Officials on Privatization Efforts

LD2309143294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1222 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Evald Kessarisyskiy]

[Text] Nizhniy Novgorod September 23 TASS—A delegation of Russian officials led by Russian President Boris Yeltsin will pay a visit to the United States soon. The delegation includes the Governor of the Novgorod region Boris Nemtsov and president of the "Gas" joint stock society, Nikolay Pugin, who intend to discuss problems connected with the development of the region with representatives of American business circles.

"First, in the United States we shall have talks with managers of investment companies," Nemtsov told ITAR-TASS today. "A major investment fund "Volga" is being created with their assistance to help privatized enterprises. The bulk of the funds are expected to be invested in chemical plants of the town of Dzherzhinsk, a major industrial center of the Nizhniy Novgorod region. Other allocations received from the fund will be used for the production of ceramic plates, Pepsi and mineral water," Nemstov said.

During the visit the Novgorod officials are expected to meet U.S. congressmen. The meeting will focus predominantly on agricultural issues, Nemtsov said. Later, the two Novgorod officials intend to visit the Ford car factory with which Nizhniy Novgorod maintains long-standing friendly ties.

"We shall suggest to our U.S. partners signing a protocol of intent which envisages the construction of a minor diesel engine," Nemtsov said. Engines of this kind are badly needed for the construction of "Gasel" trucks with a carrying capacity of 1.5 tons whose production was launched at the "Gas" plant, he said.

Perm Oblast To Draft Public Accord Treaty

MK2309101094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 23 Sep 94 p 2

[Report by Igor Lobanov under the "Regions" rubric: "Perm Is Not Rushing To Return to Public Accord. Oblast To Draft Treaty on Delimitation of Powers by 1 October"]

[Text] Deputies of the Perm Oblast Legislature discussed 22 September what progress has been made in implementing their decision of 18 August on suspending the oblast's participation in the Public Accord Pact. Legislature Chairman Yevgeniy Sapiro, who delivered a report on the subject at the opening of the session, said that despite all his previous meetings with representatives of the presidential administration, the Federation Council, and the government, Perm has not yet received the official answer signed by Sergey Filatov it has been promised, although telephone consultations on agreement with Moscow are being held regularly.

Given that, Mr. Sapiro thinks, there are no grounds to adopt any documents changing the previous decision, and he himself is intent on moving ahead or, as he put it, to adhere to the principle that one goes "forward, and only forward, taking no prisoners on the way."

The drafting of a treaty between Perm Oblast and the government on the delimitation of powers and terms of reference is continuing. There are five versions of the draft. If the treaty is to be concluded, Mr. Sapiro thinks, events can proceed further along two paths. First, this treaty could be similar to what the federal government has already signed with Tatarstan and Bashkortostan. The second option calls for separate agreements on specific sectors to be signed with the government. In any event, Mr. Sapiro emphasized, the initiative should originate with Perm Oblast.

Perm legislators felt insulted at the speaker's announcement that Ramazan Abdulatipov cannot attend their session (although the Federation Council deputy chairman himself expressed his desire to come during his meeting with Mr. Sapiro) because he has left for the Philippines as head of a Russian mission. "When your home is on fire, you do not go paying visits," the deputies reasoned, somewhat exaggerating.

According to Andrey Klimov, chairman of the regional policy committee, what the legislature has achieved so far is only a little fuss in the press and a meeting with top officials. No response from the president has been forthcoming. The government has promised to transfer 51 billion rubles [R] to the oblast. But Perm Oblast has estimated that the government owes it R582 billion. Yuriy Trutnev, chairman of the economic policy and revenues committee, said: "We should exhaust all our possibilities in establishing equal relations between the Federation components. If we do not find an opportunity for a constructive dialogue with the government, we should consider whether this is the government we need."

The idea of bringing pressure to bear on the government was taken up by Sergey Levitan, Federation Council deputy from Perm Oblast. During the discussion, he proposed that a group of citizens (so as not to "set up" the oblast leadership) file a lawsuit with the Supreme Court against the Russian Government requesting that it pay for material damage caused to the oblast's population. By his estimates, the amount of damages to be claimed could reach R1 trillion, taking into account adjustment for inflation. Apart from material damages, further grounds for such a legal action could be a breach of the Constitution that has manifested itself in the continuing inequality among Federation components. The deputies have so far avoided discussing this subject, but it cannot be ruled out that after an official response from Moscow to the oblast's withdrawal from the Public Accord Pact, they would consider satisfying their claims on the government through court proceedings.

Finally, the legislature made the following decision on the matter in question: The speaker's information about the talks and meetings he has had should be taken into consideration, and work on drafting a treaty on the delimitation of powers should continue so as to prepare the draft for consideration by 1 October. In addition, the deputies supported the appeal by the Perm Oblast Council of War and Labor Veterans to Boris Yeltsin on his Edict No. 1925 of 17 September, "On the Indexation of State Pensions in Samara Oblast." The veterans sent Yeltsin a telegram requesting that he immediately explain to them why the indexation should apply to Samara Oblast alone. The Perm Oblast legislature deemed the emergence of this edict as the continuation of discriminatory policies with regard to Federation components and a gross violation of earlier agreements. In addition, according to Yevgeniy Sapiro, this edict was not signed by Sergey Shakhray, a deputy prime minister in charge of regional policy.

Kemerovo Oblast Revisits Civil Accord Treaty

MM2309125594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 94 p 2

[Report by Viktor Kostyukovskiy: "Accord Treaty Signed in Kuzbass but Contradictions Between Local Organs of Power Only Aggravated"]

[Text] In the Kuzbass—the first Russian region where this has happened—the civil accord treaty has been signed at local, oblast, level.

For Kemerovo Oblast this act had special importance. As we know, in April the treaty was signed in Moscow by oblast administration head M. Kislyuk but not by legislative assembly Chairman A. Tuleyev. Because of this the entire Kuzbass is for some reason considered not to have signed.

The question arises: What now, should Kemerovo Oblast be considered a signatory to the treaty? Obviously it should although I admit I do not entirely understand what formal signs have to do with it. The Kuzbass, it seems to me, is proving by its deeds its adherence to a peaceful internal political process. For about three years now miners' strikes have been arising as brief local phenomena for entirely specific, by no means political, reasons, mainly because of delays in the payment of wages. It is about two years since workers in the budget-funded sphere stopped striking, although their life is not an easy one. The opposition parties, movements, and organizations, even if they have a certain numerical strength (the Communists), do not play a marked role in public life.

Actually, there are of course convinced opponents if not of accord then of a treaty on accord. Above all A. Tuleyev, who retains his former positions and basically his former arguments. It is true that we do not hear now his April idea that he was not fully empowered by the legislative assembly to sign the treaty. The point is that after the solemn April act the treaty was and remains open to signing and consequently no one was preventing the legislative assembly from discussing it and giving (or not giving) the chairman these powers. Moreover, this question has repeatedly been submitted on the agenda of sessions but a majority of deputies refused to discuss it. Of course, that is also a position, and an unambiguous one at that. But it looks as though this entire story could lead to the deepening of contradictions in the oblast parliament if not to its division. After all, several deputies have nonetheless signed. It is true that A. Tuleyev had, as they say, prepared a "soft landing" for this eventuality by accusing the oblast administration in advance of putting pressure on the deputies, particularly those working in the organs of executive power. Here he "humanely" added that he does not condemn those who faltered—we are all people, we all have to live, he said.... I think this idea can only offend the deputies who signed the treaty, especially if they did not "falter" but made their choice consciously. And, incidentally, so did some of those who did not sign. V. Makarkin, deputy head of the Anzhero-Sudzhensk city administration, for instance, refused to sign and recently submitted his resignation. But he explained this by the fact that the communist party, to which he belongs, has not signed.

The initiators of the signing of the treaty were worried by the stance of the oblast trade union, which not only refused to sign but also concluded a separate agreement on collaboration with the legislative assembly which the local press has already dubbed "the treaty of accord against signing the treaty of accord." They were worried mainly by the fact that the trade unions are the most mass-based organization. But who said that the federation's ruling clique expresses the opinions of the majority of trade union members? Probably there is nowhere such formal membership as there is in the trade unions.

Troop Exercises in North Caucasus End

LD2509113394 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Five-day ground troops command and staff exercises finished today in the North Caucasian Military district. The exercises were carried out in three stages. One of the objectives was to practice possible defense of refugees from militants.

On the third day however, when the most serious exercise was being practiced—on combating missile or aviation attacks of illegal armed formations—there appeared a serious danger in Prigorodyy Rayon of Vladikavkaz that the exercises would turn into real combat action. The troops received the order to shoot to kill in the event of provocations, which, according to intelligence reports, had already been planned.

Luckily, the unplanned return of Ingush refugees has not yet taken place.

[Begin recording Vladimir Semenov, commander-in-chief of ground troops] We see the way the events are developing in the North Caucasus. Sadly, there is no peace in the North Caucasus. [end recoding]

Troops Move To Ingushetia-North Ossetian Border

LD2309185394 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] [Announcer Tatyana Mitkova] The mass return of refugees to North Ossetia did not happen. They were stopped by the statement made yesterday by President Ruslan Aushev, and, more importantly, by powerful military cordons positioned at the border between North Ossetia and Ingushetia. The meeting of presidents of North Ossetia and Ingushetia, planned for today, was postponed until Saturday.

Allegedly, Akhsarbek Galazov and Ruslan Aushev will sign a statement acknowledging for the first time the mutual responsibility for the bloody conflict of 1992. One assumes that both leaders have decided to take into their own hands the initiative in settling the conflict. In any case, Ruslan Aushev was more than abrupt in assessing the work of the interim administration headed by Vladimir Lozovoy and of Defense Minister Pavel Grachev. The president of Ingushetia maintains that the Russian authorities have completely lost interest in settling the situation and are letting things slide.

On the contrary, Akhsarbek Galazov believes that the Russian mediation is beneficial.

Incidentally, Russian special services explain such huge concentration of armed forces in the region by the fact that Chechnya's President Dzhokhar Dudayev and his team are taking part in the mass return of the refugees.

N. Ossetian, Ingush Presidents Sign Agreement

LD2409163094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1558 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz September 24 TASS—A joint statement to stress "there is no alternative to peace and accord" was signed by the North Ossetian and Ingush presidents today as result of their meeting at Vladikavkaz airport.

The meeting was also attended by Russian Minister for Affairs of the Federation and Regional Policy Nikolay Yegorov, head of the temporary administration Vladimir Lozovoy, representatives of the Russian federal power bodies, members of North Ossetian and Ingush governments and parliaments.

The meeting focused on stabilization of the regional situation and the return of refugees and forced migrants to four populated localities of the North Ossetian Prigorodnyy region.

"Two years have passed since tragic days of October-November 1992 in the North Ossetian Prigorodnyy region. The losses are irreparable," says the statement.

"We, presidents of the republics whose peoples invested us with supreme confidence, deeply understand the degree of responsibility for their future and lament over the tragedy. The culprits must be severely punished.

"There is no alternative to peace and accord. The Ossetian and Ingush peoples lived side by side for centuries. Good-neighbourly relations are vitally important for Northern Ossetia and Ingushetia, peace and accord in the Caucasus, the whole Russian Federation.

"The agreement signed on June 26 in Belsan creates a possibility to overcome the tragedy aftermath," says the statement.

The presidents confirmed their adherence to the agreement, resolutely denounced and urged the end to "propaganda of national extremism and intolerance, violation of human rights, appeals for violence and attempts to solve disputable issues in evasion of the Russian constitution and laws".

"We state the need for further dialogue, observation of human rights and interests of each side, and conclusion of a large-scale treaty on friendship and cooperation between the republics of Northern Ossetia and Ingushetia," says the document.

Sides Agree on Refugees' Return

LD2409142794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1352 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] President Ruslan Aushev of Ingushetia and his North Ossetian counterpart, Akhsarbek Galazov, reached an agreement to resume the process of refugees' return, and to make it uninterrupted. 670 Ingush families are to return to their homes in Prigorodnyy District before the winter frosts begin, the Russian Minister for the Affairs of Nationalities and Regional Policy, Nikolay Yegorov, told journalists on Saturday [24 September] after the talks held between the two presidents at the Beslan Airport not far from Vladikavkaz. Together with the head of the Interim Administration in the Osset-Ingush conflict area, Vladimir Lozovoy, he attended the conference between Galazov and Aushev.

In a communique signed as a result of their talks the two sides reaffirmed their adherence to the agreement on the return of refugees and displaced persons to four population centers in Prigorodnyy District in North Ossetia signed on June 26, and to President Boris Yeltsin's decree concerning refugees issued on July 25.

The two sides agreed to stop the endeavors to advocate ethnic extremism and intolerance, human rights abuses, calls for violence and attempts to resolve disputes in contravention of the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

The leaders of North Ossetia and Ingushetia pointed to the need to continue their dialogue and sign a full-scale agreement on friendship and cooperation between the two republics.

When answering journalists' questions, the Russian Minister, Nikolay Yegorov, pointed to the importance of the conference held by the presidents of North Ossetia and Ingushetia. According to him, the meeting was prompted by the Ingush refugees' resolve to launch a "peace march" on Prigorodnyy District. According to Yegorov, had the march taken place, the conflict would have overstepped the limits of North Ossetia and Ingushetia.

The minister said that he intends to suggest to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin that economic and financial aid to the two republics should be stopped if they do not end their conflict.

After the conference the North Ossetian President Galazov pointed to the importance of the joint communique in which the two sides confirmed their will to establish peace and accord in the region.

Alleged Misinformation on North Caucasus Issues

MK2409081094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 1

[Article by Igor Rotar under the "Disinformation" rubric: "How Many Ingush Have Returned to North Ossetia? One More Blooper by Sergey Filatov"]

[Text] Without exaggeration, the interview by Sergey Filatov, the Russian president's chief of staff, for the "Segodnya" television program the day before yesterday can be described as sensational. The man who, according to leaders in the Northern Caucasus, firmly believe lays down Russia's policy in their region, demonstrated amazing ignorance of the existing realities for the umpteenth time. Discussing the planned move by Ingush refugees, Sergey

Aleksandrovich notes that there is some progress in repatriation of the refugees. For example, according to him, 12,000 Ingush have returned to North Ossetia to date. Meanwhile, the figure cited by the chief of staff requires a considerable correction: the number of returnees to North Ossetia—I claim this as an eyewitness—runs not into thousands but into dozens. True, nearly 12,000 Ingush do live in reservations protected by Russian peacekeepers in North Ossetia, but these are people who could not flee to Ingushetia right from the start.

This is not, unfortunately, Sergey Filatov's first blooper. He claimed a month ago that they were staging ritual executions in Chechnya, and displayed axed heads for intimidation on Groznyy city squares. Does one have to say that this was an outright provocation?

In fact, only two guesses may be offered explaining the utterances by the head of the Russian administration. It is quite probable that Moscow, playing a rather complicated game in the Northern Caucasus, is indeed not on top of the situation in a region of its political interests. In which case one can hardly doubt that rather unpleasant consequences of Russian policy in the Northern Caucasus will become felt (they are already being felt, in fact) in the nearest future.

One also has to bear in mind the other guess, however, which largely confirms the former, albeit from a new angle. Moscow may as well deliberately go for outright disinformation in a bid to justify its policy in public eyes. It is hardly worth explaining how myopic this tactic is. Not only do such pronouncements destabilize the situation in the Northern Caucasus once again, convincing the local population of Moscow's incompetence and hostility, but they never remain unnoticed in the parent state, thus helping the opponents of the current leadership pull no punches in criticizing the powers that be.

Kremlin Reportedly Supports Khasbulatov

LD2309142694 Moscow NTV in Russian 1354 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Ruslan Khasbulatov, former Speaker of the Russian Supreme Soviet and now one of the leaders of the Chechen opposition, has been promised all-round support by the Kremlin. RIA learned from circles close to Khasbulatov that today he met with a high-ranking representative of the Russian president's administration. Khasbulatov is happy with the results of the meeting. RIA learned that Ruslan Imranovich [Khasbulatov] will hold a news conference in the next few days at which he will disclose the results of the talks. After this he will return to Chechnya.

Clan Urges Holding Congress of Chechen People

LD2509104694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1021 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy September 25 TASS—A Congress of members of Chechnya's influental Chinkhoi clan, which was held in the opposition-held settlement of Shalazhi on Sunday, proposed that a congress of the Chechen people be held to equally represent all clans and ethnicities living in the republic.

The congress also urged the republic's authorities "to prevent further aggravation of the baneful civic confrontation" and said that the clan, which membership numbers several thousand people, will "continuously stand for guaranteed equality of rights and freedoms for all Chechen citizens regardless of their nationality, religion, number (of a group), and political views".

The choice of the place, which residents rose against the republic's official president, does not mean that all members of the clan are opposing dudayev's regime. Simply they would hardly be allowed to gather in Groznyy, participants said.

The Chechen society has for ages been based on a diverse clan structure. Modern Chechnya has over 130 clans which are retaining their former influence on the republic's political life, while that of authorities, political parties and mass movements is going into decline.

Yeltsin's 1992 Firing of Oblast Chief Invalidated

MK2309110094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Aug 94 p 2

[POSTFACTUM report under the "In Brief" rubric: "Moscow"]

[Text] The Moscow City Court has declared illegal the president's 23 December 1992 edict relieving Gennadiy Kuptsov of the position of head of Lipetsk Oblast administration and, as they have stressed at the Moscow City Court, this is the first time such a thing has happened in Russian court practice. Gennadiy Kuptsov was relieved of the position of head of administration on the insistence of the oblast soviet, but the president's edict did not contain any formulation of the reason for the dismissal, and this enabled Gennadiy Kuptsov to bring suit against the president's staff.

Chernomyrdin Tours Yekaterinburg Defense Factories

LD2309132894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1048 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, touring the Sverdlovsk Region, visited numerous defense factories in Yekaterinburg.

He conferred with factory managers and workers of factories, which represent the core of the Russian and former Soviet defense industry, on the 1995 defense contracts, the conversion program, the non-payment crisis and social issues such as housing and transportation.

Chernomyrdin is scheduled to meet with regional and city leaders and businessmen.

About 45 factories have begun the conversion process and it is hoped that their expertise can be used in other regions.

Chernomyrdin is likely to discuss arms trade and the use of proceeds going to benefit the region's factories and infrastructure.

His delegation includes acting Finance Minister Sergey Dubinin, First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin and State Defense Industry Committee Chairman Viktor Glukhikh.

Experts Watch Volga MiG-23 Fighter Planes Destroyed

LD2609092394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0841 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Belyakov]

[Text] Samara September 26 TASS—MiG-23 fighter planes were being destroyed at a military aerodrome of the Volga Region Military District outside Bobrovka in the presence of a group of U.S. military officers.

The military equipment is destroyed in compliance with the treaty on a cut of conventional weapons, the military district newspaper "SOLDAT OTECHESTVA" (SOLDIER OF THE FATHERLAND) reported. Eighty combat aircraft will be cut to pieces in the presence of the foreign experts here.

Far Eastern Military Air Field Duties Expanded

LD2509090694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0738 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Vinogradov]

[Text] Nakhodka, Russian Far East September 25 TASS—A military aerodrome, located in the maritime territory's Partizanskaya valley, will from now on accept both military and civilian planes to serve needs of the Nakhodka free economic zone, chairman of the zone's administrative committee Sergey Dudnik told TASS on Sunday.

The Russian Government has issued a resolution to grant the aeroport a combined-duty status, as was earlier agreed upon with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev.

Sakhalin PVO Regiment Gets S-300 Missile Systems

OW2409044994 Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Teleradiokompaniya Sakhalin Television Network in Russian 1905 GMT 19 Sep 94

[Sergey Chudinov video report from the "Morning Cruise" program]

[Text] The antiaircraft missile regiment of the PVO [Air Defense Forces] went on alert on 15 September after receiving new equipment in its arms inventory. While the solemn formation is taking place, a few words about the history of this unit. It was born on 9 May 1941. It was formed in Komsomolsk- na-Amure and had 37- and 76-millimeter antiaircraft guns in its inventory. On 9 August 1945, it took part in battles against Japan as part of the 97th PVO Division. After the war the unit was rearmed, and since 1961 it has been guarding the air space here in Sakhalin. And now the latest generation of equipment is solemnly going on alert duty.

[Begin Khatylev recording] I command: 1. The command post of the regiment together with reconnaissance, target designation, and communications means, the first antiaircraft missile division of S- 300PS, to take up alert duty at 1100 hours on 15 September 1994;

2. To consider the following to be the basic tasks of alert duty: Ensure timely transfer of regimental subunits to the highest level of combat alert. Prevent intrusion of aircraft into the air space of the Russian Federation. [end recording]

As you have probably already noticed there are not very many servicemen in the regiment. Conscripted servicemen occupy the positions of drivers and diesel operators, while officers who were recently trained in Gatchina are those who are going on alert duty. [video shows a line up of at least six S-300 mobile missile complexes, Chudinov interviewing Lieutenant Colonel Khatylev]

[Begin recording] [Chudinov] The mass media and the public at large often talk about the fact that the times have now changed and ask: Is it worth wasting large sums of money in trying to determine a so-called probable enemy? Is it not time to look towards peace? Now as a military man do you agree with this view?

[Khatylev] I would like to say one thing. Although we are military people, nobody wants to fight, although it is the duty of any serviceman to defend his motherland and fulfill any order he receives. But today in our region, particularly in the Pacific Ocean basin, a potential enemy does exist and is preparing for combat activities in reality. There are 15 tactical fighters in the air over Japan practically every day. Since we are in direct proximity with the border, it forms literally 20 or more kilometers from here, we cannot risk a situation which would allow a repetition of 1941 and all the events that followed.

[Chudinov] And can you tell us your name?

[Khatylev] I am Lieutenant Colonel Sergey Petrovich Khatylev. In 1975, I graduated from school No. 5 here in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk...

[Chudinov interrupts] So you are a local.

[Khatylev continues] ...and I was born in Komsomolsk-na-Amure. So I consider this to be my homeland and my region...

[Chudinov interrupting] And you are defending it.

[Khatylev]...and I am defending it. [end recording]

The guests inspected the new equipment. It was somewhat surprising to see a priest sprinkling the death-dealing weapons with holy water. But I remembered Oleg Nikolayevich Tolstoy. You may recall that on the eve of that major battle [of 1812] there was a procession of the cross. And here, too, defense of the fatherland is a noble task. Besides, if even sex shows are so honored then the products of higher military ideas also deserve this.

Now seriously, this regiment is the only one on Sakhalin which is on combat alert. The weapons are the most up to date and highly mobile. Specialists maintain that there is nothing like it in the world. The missiles have an almost 100 percent strike capability against airborne, waterborne, and ground targets. These formidable weapons are now in the reliable hands of people whose profession is to defend the motherland, to defend you and me.

Severodvinsk Military Plants Lose Power, Heat

MM2309133394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 94 p 2

[Report by Anatoliy Stepovoy and Viktor Filippov: "All Severodvinsk Enterprises Brought to a Standstill"]

[Text] Arkhangelsk—The "Arkhenergo" Joint-Stock Company, which is owed around 70 billion rubles [R] by Severodvinsk military plants, has disconnected its TETs-2 [heat and electric power station], which feeds these plants. The first frosts struck on the night of 21 September in Arkhangelsk, and power workers opted for the lesser of two evils—namely, to leave military enterprises rather than civilians without heat. There remained just two days' fuel oil reserves at Arkhangelsk's heat and electric power stations, and they do not have the money to purchase fuel.

"The 'Sevmash' enterprise has conscientiously fulfilled the state order, but of the R300 billion earned it has received just R29 billion in all," Arkhangelsk Governor Pavel Balakshin says. "It was apropos of this that I sent a telegram to the president of Russia back at the start of August. Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin instructed the head of the government to settle state debts to the Severodvinsk shipbuilders. In turn, Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin gave orders to the Finance Ministry and the Defense Ministry to pay the 'Sevmash' enterprise for all completed orders within two weeks. Over a month has passed since then, and still no money."

Russia's top leaders have firsthand knowledge of all the problems here. This city, which has a population of 300,000 and is located on the shores of the White Sea, has extended a warm welcome to Boris Yeltsin, Viktor Chernomyrdin, Vladimir Shumeyko, and Pavel Grachev. And each of the VIP guests sincerely promised the creators of this unique military hardware the state's full support. But, after their visits, the state did not pay the workers for the nuclear submarines, nor is it paying yet.

"And you know, the Arkhangelsk Oblast budget consists mainly of payments from the timber complex and military plants of Severodvinsk," Governor Pavel Balakshin says. "But the finance minister refused to offer timber workers preferential credits for the procurement of timber, and this procurement dropped instantly from 20 million cubic meters a year to 9 million cubic meters. The 'Sevmash' enterprise has also been left without a dime in its pocket."

In the view of independent Moscow experts, published by the newspaper PRAVDA SEVERA, Arkhangelsk Oblast is among the 11 Russian regions which may see a sharp exacerbation of social tension this fall owing to a drop in the population's living standards. The timber-processing enterprises, with which the well-being of one in three oblast inhabitants is linked, are standing idle. The average wage is almost R100,000 below the cost of a consumer basket for northerners. And on top of all this, there is a real threat of being without heating for the ferocious winter.

Komi Local Official Orders Armed Guards on Crops

MM2609101994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Sep 94 First Edition p 8

[Report by Yuriy Vakhrin: "Guards to the Fore"]

[Text] Komi Republic—Vasiliy Gutorov, head of the Komi Republic's Priluzskiy Rayon Administration, has issued a tough decree "On Armed Protection of the Fields." Supporting the "initiative of sovkhoz and kolkhoz leaders," he has ordered armed detachments to be set up on farms during the harvest period. These subunits will be formed on a voluntary basis by sovkhoz and kolkhoz workers. It has been decided to appoint district militiamen as the commanders.

The population have been understanding about their chief's decree. Moreover, the rayon newspaper where the document was published has even received letters from citizens approving of the rayon leaders' actions. But there has been a protest from Lyudmila Urnysheva, the Priluzye region prosecutor—the volunteer militia can be set up, but as for the weapons.... The head of the rayon actually has no right to order the peasants to take rifles into the fields. But we would note that neither the rayon leader nor the prosecutor is entitled to forbid them to sit in their own plots with their rifles.

Buryatia's Potapov Submits 2 Draft Laws

MK2309105094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Aug 94 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports": "Russian Federation"]

[Text] As has been reported by the press service of Buryatia's president and government, republic President Leonid Potapov has submitted to the People's Assembly a plan of legislative initiatives for the second half of the year. The state and legislative administrations of the president and the government have drawn up draft laws "On Buryatia's Constitutional Court" and "On a Procedure for Publishing and Entering into Force of Laws of the Republic of Buryatia, of Acts by the President, the People's Assembly, and the Government." In the stage of development are a number of draft laws, in particular those "On Citizenship of the Republic of Buryatia," "On the Government," "On the Procedure Regulating the Stay and Transit of Foreign Citizens Across Buryatia Territory," and "On State Decorations of the Republic of Buryatia." They will be submitted for the consideration of the republic's parliament in November 1994. A republic government program for the economic stabilization of Buryatia is to be unveiled at the October session of the People's Assembly.

Drive Against Crime Nets Corrupt Policemen

MM2309160494 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 94 p 3

[Report by Sergey Gorlenko, Russian Federation Federal Counterintelligence Service Public Relations Center, and Vladimir Berezko under the "Events and Commentaries" rubric: "Federal Counterintelligence Service Will Be Vigilant and Will Not Allow Arms Dealers and Bribe-Takers to Sleep Easy"]

[Text] In St. Petersburg, according to materials from the Federal Counterintelligence Service [FCS] directorate there, several hard-core criminal groupings which were active in the region have been neutralized. As a result of strategic enquiries carried out in conjunction with the GUVD [internal affairs main administration], 12 gangsters were arrested, and a large quantity of weapons and ammunition was confiscated. Criminal proceedings have been instituted against several members of the so-called "Malyshevskiy" grouping accused of gangsterism and other violent crimes.

In all this year, according to materials from St. Petersburg's counterintelligence agents, criminal proceedings have been instituted against more than 100 people under articles 218 (illegal possession, carriage, and acquisition or sale of weapons and ammunition), 77 (gangsterism), and 145 (robbery) of the Russian Federation Criminal Code. During strategic investigations one machine gun, nine submachine guns, 77 pistols, 21 rifles, 32 grenades, nine mortar shells, and 60 kg of TNT, as well as ammunition and specialized equipment, were confiscated from them.

Rostov counterintelligence agents in conjunction with the oblast UVD [internal affairs administration] confiscated 71 firearms, including 53 rifled weapons, three grenades, and 7 kg of explosives.

Unfortunately it seems that the people whose duty it is to protect the lawful interests of citizens themselves often embark on the slippery road to crime. In the FCS Directorate for Kaliningrad Oblast information was received regarding the extortion of bribes by a staffer of one of the rayon internal affairs departments.

It emerged that money was being exacted from an oblast inhabitant by the chief of the investigations desk. Together with staffers of the oblast UVD organized crime unit, the bribe-taking militiaman was caught red-handed in receipt of $200.

In this context his "luck ran out" for another militiaman too—also a lover of easy money. But this time in Kamchatka. The FCS directorate Economic Counterintelligence Department and the UVD conducted a brilliant operation to detain the bribe-taker. The Kamchatka Oblast Prosecutor's Office has instigated criminal proceedings. It merely remains to hope that the court sentence will not be too lenient and that it will reward the criminals according to their deserts.

Voronezh Oblast Duma Curtails Chief's Powers

MK2409095094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 24 Sep 94 p 2

[Report by German Mikhaylov under the "Legality" rubric: "Oblast-Scale Constitutional Crisis. Voronezh Governor Does Not Want To Be a Go-fer"]

[Text] A law "On Organs of State Power" passed by Voronezh Oblast Duma deputies the other day has provoked a sharp rejection of Aleksandr Kovalev, local head of administration. In his opinion, the document violates the constitutional principle of separation and independence of the legislative and executive branches.

The man behind the law's appearance was the governor himself, who wished to be elected to his position through direct voting by the populace. The Duma asked him to wait on the elections until a law on power has been in place that would promise to expedite the passing of the draft.

The law has now been passed, but the governor, however, is unhappy with virtually everything in it. He has only succeeded in insisting that the top executive of the oblast be elected by its population. As for the Duma, it has reserved the right to confirm the appointments of the prosecutor, first deputies heads of administration, the chairman of the oblast committee for the administration of property, the chiefs of the power structures, and to pass the budget and monitor its implementation. In Mr. Kovalev's opinion, the Duma thereby is trying to turn the executive branch into a "go-fer."

Under the temporary provision, the law should be signed by the head of administration. Should he refuse to sign—Mr. Kovalev actually said "no" at a 22 September press conference—the Duma, by a two-thirds vote, can pass a decision making it effective without the governor's signature. The next possible move by the head of the administration is a protest to the federal organs.

The absence of a law on regional self-government, regional observers believe, threatens a great number of similar conflicts in Russia. Incidentally, according to oblast Duma chairman Ivan Shabanov, the document passed in Voronezh will be forwarded, as a legislative initiative, to the Russian Federation State Duma.

Political Suppression of Local Newspaper Viewed

MM2309115894 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 94 p 6

[Report by Natalya Barabash: "'Dalpress' Forces Newspaper Into Underground"]

[Text] For the first time since 1917 the Maritime Kray newspaper KRASNOYE ZNAMYA has been published from the underground. The issue, in pamphlet form, has been published, by a commercial printing house whose identity remains secret, under the masthead "Emergency Edition" and carrying the headline "The Kray's Oldest Newspaper... Becomes the Latest Victim of the Mass Attack on Free Speech!"

As we have already written, the newspaper, readership 35,000, is not being published because the kray administration, which one year ago became the publication's cofounder, did not approve of the present editor, V. Shkrabov or, probably more importantly, of articles carried by the newspaper supporting neither the idea of gubernatorial elections nor the candidacy of current kray administration head Ye. Nazdratenko.

The collective was unable to print the publication openly, even to explain itself to its readers: The directors of printing houses referred to verbal bans from the bosses against printing the disgraced publication.

At which point the "Dalpress" Publishing House, referring to a contract which a year ago had not even been signed, switched off the lights in the editorial offices. So the journalists had to assume outcast status: They had to lay the cable themselves and surreptitiously connect it to the grid, and conspiratorially negotiate with a commercial firm for the publication of the pamphlet issue, which carried only the collective's correspondence with the kray administration on the subject of the nonpublication of the newspaper....

The situation is just as unruly as has been customary for Maritime Kray in recent months. This is why representatives of the most diverse political parties in Maritime Kray—communists, republicans, agrarians, social democrats, representatives of "Russia's Choice"—assembled in the KRASNOYE ZNAMYA building. Their joint statement reads: In Maritime Kray the rights of Russian citizens are blatantly violated, the law on the press is flouted, and a mass persecution of journalists is being conducted. The situation over KRASNOYE ZNAMYA is only a continuation of the tragic scandal over the kidnapping of Alesha Sadykov.

The assembly was also addressed by would-be candidates in the gubernatorial elections: The kray electoral commission had refused to register them as candidates on the basis of a provisional statute on elections elaborated in the recesses of... the kray administration itself.

Flood, Diphtheria Threats to Maritime Kray

MM2309141194 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Sep 94 p 1

[Report by Vitaliy Strugovets: "Maritime Kray Finds Itself Caught Between Two Fires, Flooded by Torrential Rains and Enveloped by Diphtheria Epidemic"]

[Text] Heavy rains are continuing to raise the water level in Maritime Kray rivers. We were informed in the Russian Federation Ministry for Emergency Situations Press Office that the area of flooding already totals 27,800 hectares. According to the statistics as of 21 September, three people have been killed and 15 are missing. Seventy-four population centers are under water and 763 homes, 104 administrative buildings, 674 km of roadway, 64 bridges, 21 hydrotechnical installations, 54.6 km of power lines, and 38.2 km of communications lines have been damaged. More than 1,800 people and 460 units of machinery and helicopters—including some from the Far East Military District, the Pacific Fleet, and the Pacific Border District—have been mobilized to eliminate the consequences of the catastrophe. Estimated damages stand at 480 billion rubles.

By decision of the Maritime Kray Commission for Emergency Situations two operations groups have been set up with bases in the population centers of Lazo and Chuguyevsk. In addition, in order to coordinate the actions of all forces and assets, an emergency situations commission operations group headed by Colonel Kapchanchikov has arrived in Vladivostok.

According to Maritime Kray Emergency Situations Commission Chairman Igor Lebedinets, the rampage of the elements exceeds the force of the most powerful typhoon ever to hit the region. As we recall, this is considered here to be Typhoon Judy, which swept over the kray in 1990. Thus today the water level in several rivers already exceeds the critical "Judy" mark by 20-25 centimeters. And this is possibly not the limit.

But troubles do not come singly. In addition to the threat posed by the aqueous element, Maritime Kray now faces the real threat of a diphtheria epidemic. According to the statistics of the kray health care administration, the number of sufferers from this dangerous ailment has tripled [referent item says "doubled"] by comparison with last year. In the last eight months 20 people have died from diphtheria in this region.

ITAR-TASS has reported that the main cause of the increased incidence of the disease is the refusal of many parents to have their children vaccinated against infection.

In view of the seriousness of the situation it has been necessary to set up a coordinating council on diphtheria in Maritime Kray, composed of representatives of all the kray's health and medical services.

There is one more thing I would like to mention. In attempting to obtain reliable information about what is happening in the Maritime region I unexpectedly encountered incidents of its being skilfully manipulated. For example, the Maritime Kray Emergency Situations Commission duty officer, in response to a request for information about the current situation in the kray, stated that "being situated deep underground, he cannot know what is happening on the surface." And he advised me to apply to kray headquarters. There too they provided no information, referring me to the emergency situations commission press service. And the duty officer for the Pacific Fleet, whose forces have also been mobilized to eliminate the consequences of the natural disaster, stated quite categorically that "he does not intend to operate as an information bureau" and that the central organ of the Ministry of Defense should not distract him from carrying out his duty. But we very much wanted to tell readers of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA about the Pacific Fleet's helicopter pilots who, risking their own lives in difficult weather conditions, are saving the lies of dozens of stricken people. After all, to be sure, their names deserve to be known to the whole country....

International Affairs

Russia's Kozyrev Discusses Treaty With Officials

LD2309120194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1048 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Ukrainian and Russian Foreign Ministers Hennadiy Udovenko and Andrey Kozyrev said at a joint news conference in Kiev that a comprehensive treaty between the two countries would be signed shortly.

Kozyrev believed that issues such as the Black Sea Fleet, the assets and debts of the former USSR and other bilateral problems would be resolved.

Answering an INTERFAX-UKRAINE question Udovenko said that the drafting of the treaty and of agreements on the Black Sea Fleet and other issues must proceed simultaneously.

He said, however, that some believe that the treaty and the visit by the Russian president to Kiev will necessarily be the climax of work on the agreements.

Kozyrev called for signing an agreement on the assets and debts of the former USSR. He admitted that the two countries had inherited certain difficult commitments from the former USSR.

Kozyrev said that dual citizenship must in some way be incorporated into the comprehensive treaty.

He said that the treaty would confirm the present Ukrainian borders. Udovenko expressed the hope that the parties to the treaty would find a satisfactory formulation of this idea.

He also said that participation of Ukraine in CIS peacekeeping units had been discussed in his talks with Kozyrev at Ukraine's initiative. According to Udovenko, Ukraine intends to increase its role in the CIS.

Kozyrev is scheduled to meet with Ukrainian Deputy Prime Ministers Valeriy Shmarov and Yevgeniy Marchuk.

Kuchma Optimistic on Future Treaty

LD2309151894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1336 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma believes that Russia understands all problems linked with the conclusion of a future large-scale treaty with Ukraine. He was speaking upon his arrival in Zaporozhiye on Friday. "Answers to questions requiring a political settlement with Russia will be found," Kuchma said about the results of his meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on Thursday.

Kuchma Thanks Yeltsin for Crimea Position

LD2409203794 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1415 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]—President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma met Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on 22 September. In the course of the conversation, the sides paid most attention to preparation of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Partnership between Ukraine and the Russian Federation.

"We have always found a common language and emerged from the most complex situation, and therefore, I expect that we will come to an agreement on the remaining issues too," Leonid Kuchma observed. He also asked for his thanks to be passed on to Boris Yeltsin for his assistance and balanced position during the recent Crimean events.

At a joint news conference by Hennadiy Udovenko and Andrey Kozyrev, Ukraine's and Russia's ministers of foreign affairs held on the same day, the head of Ukraine's foreign policy department noted with regard to Ukraine's participation in peacekeeping operations on CIS territory, that this issue was being worked out and that because of of its nonbloc position Ukraine could not fully participate in these operations, but that it would support Russia.

Andrey Kozyrev reported that the issue of assets should be resolved, taking account of the mutual interest of both sides. This issue will be finally examined during the visit by Russian President Boris Yeltsin that will take place "in the near future." In the opinion of the Russian diplomat, the issues of dual citizenship and inviolability of borders should be settled in the Ukrainian-Russian Treaty on Friendship, Partnership, and Cooperation.

Andrey Kozyrev also noted that he did not see any impediments to the joint use of premises for Ukraine's and Russia's missions abroad.

Shmarov 'Satisfied' With Accord Implementation

LD2309122994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1042 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko, Mikhail Melnik, and UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya]

[Text] Kiev, 23 Sep—Valeriy Shmarov, Ukrainian acting defense minister and deputy prime minister, told journalists after his talks with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev that he is satisfied with the progress in implementation of the trilateral statement by the presidents of Ukraine, the United States, and the Russian Federation. "Both the Russian foreign minister and I are satisfied with the progress in implementation of the trilateral statement by the presidents of Ukraine, the United States, and the Russian Federation", he said.

Valeriy Shmarov also said that questions relating to implementation of the bilateral Ukrainian-Russian agreement on the nuclear disarmament were discussed at the talks. According to him, both sides are pleased with the state of affairs as regards implementation of these documents. "However, there are also questions where some adjustment is necessary", he added. Valeriy Shmarov believes that "this should be completed by the time that the issue of Ukraine's joining the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons will be discussed." The adjustments are connected first and foremost with the size of American aid, which is "absolutely unsatisfactory", Shmarov said.

Valeriy Shmarov emphasized guarantees for Ukraine's national security. In his opinion, a wide-ranging document needs to be adopted containing guarantees from the nuclear states. He said that this has influenced Ukraine's attitude in considering whether to join the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

The prime minister reported that he and Andrey Kozyrev had discussed compensation for nuclear fuel taken out of Ukraine. He said: "Decisions were made about mutual obligations. There should be no problems concerning this in relations between Russia and Ukraine".

Vitaliy Shmarov also reported that matters connected with the Black Sea Fleet were discussed during the meeting, as well as several private problems. Valeriy Shmarov said that Andrey Kozyrev assured him that Russia supports Ukraine in disarmament and joining the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

Kuchma Favors Stronger Ties With CIS

LD2409204594 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma told journalists in Zaporozhye that the republic should strengthen its ties with the CIS countries, INTERFAX reports. Kuchma believes the course of self-isolation was a big mistake of the former republican leadership. Another big mistake, in Kuchma's view, was a price increase in December 1993, along with the ban on issuing credits to enterprises, which brought production in Ukraine to a standstill.

Kuchma Discusses Relations With U.S. Delegation

LD2409211294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1440 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya for TASS]

[Excerpt] Kiev, 24 Sep—Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma today received a delegation of participants of a session of the Ukrainian-American Consultative Committee. The sides exchanged opinions on a number of issues of mutual interest. They spoke, inter alia, about the need to develop bilateral relations and speed up economic reforms in Ukraine.

Those representing the American side in the delegation included prominent political and economic figures, like Zbigniew Brzezinski, Henry Kissinger, and George Soros. [passage omitted]

Delegation Views Kiev's Nuclear Security

LD2509161894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1347 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] The Ukrainian-U.S. Consultative Committee said it considered it necessary to give to Ukraine guarantees for its nuclear security in written form after Ukraine signed the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The committee addressed its appeal to Russia and the U.S. which had signed the trilateral statement on nuclear disarmament of Ukraine.

The committee held its meeting in Kiev on September 24 with the participation of Zbigniew Brzezinski, Advisor of the Strategic Research Center Henry Kissinger and well-known businessman George Soros. Ukraine was represented by Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk, Economics Minister Roman Shpek and other officials.

Kissinger told an Interfax-Ukraine correspondent at a press conference that he believed the guarantees which the U.S. could give to Ukraine would help to continue enhancing Ukrainian-U.S. relations.

Tarasyuk said he believed that the necessity for giving such guarantees stemmed from the trilateral statement itself. He repeated that Ukraine had been negotiating with nuclear powers on this issue for two years already.

IMF Agreement Seen as 'Watershed' for Economic Reform

MS2409102994 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 24 Sep 94 pp 1, 26

[Report by Chrystia Freeland: Ukraine and IMF Agree Initial Deal Over Economic Reforms"]

[Text] Kiev—Ukraine reached preliminary agreement with the International Monetary Fund yesterday on a programme of radical economic reforms that may release an initial $700m (443m pounds) in aid next month.

The deal with the IMF, the first since Ukraine declared independence just over three years ago, may be a watershed in the country's economic development.

Under former president Leonid Kravchuk, Ukraine became one of the most economically depressed republics of the former Soviet Union. The new president, Mr. Leonid Kuchma, has promised comprehensive economic reforms, and yesterday's agreement suggests that his government is prepared to live up to his word.

According to Mr. Viktor Yushchenko, the reformist chairman of the Ukrainian central bank, who took part in the negotiations, Ukraine has agreed to keep its budget deficit to 10 percent of GDP.

IMF officials said the accord called for a tight fiscal policy, price liberalisation, liberalisation of Ukraine's foreign trade, rapid structural reform, such as privatisation, and the creation of a safety net to shield the poor.

If the preliminary agreement is ratified next week by the board of the IMF and the Ukrainian leadership, it may pave the way for substantial Western assistance. IMF officials said they could begin negotiating a standby agreement with Ukraine, which might release as much as $1.24bn, early next year. This summer the Group of Seven leading industrial nations promised Ukraine $4bn in aid if the country began serious reforms.

"This is a ground-breaking agreement," said Mr. Lawrence DeMilnar, resident representative for the IMF in Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko said: "This is the beginning of real steps toward economic reform", adding that the president was "100 percent" behind the IMF deal and the reform process. He also predicted that initial opponents of market reforms in Ukraine in the cabinet of ministers and the communist-dominated parliament would support the deal, which, he said, had created "an unprecedented political consensus on the need for reforms in Ukraine".

Mr. Yushchenko said that Mr. Vitaliy Masol, the Ukrainian prime minister, was likely to sign the agreement with the IMF.

The agreement with the IMF, and the brightened prospect for reforms in Ukraine, suggest that the country's provincial and often instinctively conservative political elites have realised that without an improvement in Ukraine's collapsing economy the nation is unlikely to survive as an independent state.

Professor Anders Aslund, the Swedish economist who has been advising the government, said that "there is now the best chance yet for a commitment to reform. There is now the clear will to move forward".

He said that because of greater social stability and less crime the prospects for reform "are in some ways better than in Russia".

National Affairs

Kuchma Addresses Local Council Heads

LD2309182394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1604 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondents Sergey Balykov, Vladimir Yeremenko—TASS]

[Text] Zaporozye September 23 TASS—There is no other real executive power in regions but the universally-elected heads of local councils, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said here today. The president is currently in Zaporozye to announce his program of economic transformations. The program will be presented to the parliament on October 4.

The first meeting of a new conciliatory body, the Council of Regions, was held here today to adopt an appeal to the Ukrainian Parliament. The appeal stated the grave economic and social situation in the country, the increased crime rate and the impoverishment of people, and suggested to accept the proposals of the state head on creation of an efficient vertical executive power system.

A meeting of the president and local council chairmen was held today. The president urged council heads to consolidate the executive power at all levels. "I am sure that nothing will be done in the state without a strong executive power," stressed Kuchma.

Speaking of the elaboration and adoption of a new Ukrainian Constitution, the president noted he prefers gradual changes and added that a preliminary constitution is possible.

The president focused on the economy. "It is high time to pass over from populism to genuine economic reforms and order in the state, we have no other way," said Kuchma.

Says Power To Be Concentrated

LD2409185794 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] According to Interfax, the plan of action that Leonid Kuchma intends to set out at the Ukrainian Supreme Council session on 4 October envisages a number of unpopular measures that may be disliked. The president of Ukraine himself said this at a conference with chairmen of local councils in Zaporozhye Oblast late in Friday evening.

As the president of Ukraine, I really want to concentrate the entire power in the hands of the president, said Kuchma.

Kuchma's Reform Bloc To Expand, Form New Party

LD2409194394 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1930 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]—A UNIAN correspondent has learned that a session of the Organizational Committee for setting up a new political party on the basis of the Interregional Reform Bloc and the "New Ukraine" association, chaired by Volodymyr Hrynyov, co-chairman of the Interregional Reform Bloc and adviser to the president of Ukraine on regional policy, took place behind closed doors today. Representatives from 19 of Ukraine's regions took part in the session.

According to information from Volodymyr Hrynyov, party branches will be set up in 21 oblasts, and also in the Republic of Crimea. Regional party conferences will take place in October, and a founding congress of the new party is planned for November.

Volodymyr Hrynyov stressed that Leonid Kuchma had acknowledged the necessity and importance of setting up a party of reforms, which he as president could rely on as the avant-garde of economic reforms. According to Volodymyr Hrynyov, the party will insist that Ukraine takes steps toward a presidential-parliamentary type of state in the near future, and that parliament's activity be limited to exclusively legislative activity.

Kravchuk Elected to Supreme Council

LD2609103494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0952 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By UKRINFORM-TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 26 Sep—Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk gained 87.4 percent of the vote in the people's deputy elections for Terobovlya electoral district No. 364 (Ternopol Oblast) on 25 September. The Central Electoral

Commission reported that according to the district electoral commission's initial results, 85.7 percent of the registered electorate took part in the elections. The second candidate for deputy—Nikolay Novoselskiy, a programmer from the small joint enterprise "Meandr" in Ternopol—received only 10 percent of the vote.

Leonid Kravchuk is currently president of the fund for the development of the arts in Ukraine and is not a member of any party. Registration of the elected deputy is still to be examined by the Central Electoral Commission.

Communists Want Ban on Party Activity Lifted

LD2509132294 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Kiev, 23 September—The "Communists of Ukraine for Social Justice and Political Power of the People" group at the Supreme Council of Ukraine proposed that a draft resolution on rescinding the resolution by the presidium of the Supreme Council of the previous convocation banning the activities of the Communist Party of Ukraine [KPU] be included on the agenda of the second session of the Supreme Council of Ukraine. At the request of the "Hot line" press center, People's Deputy Petro Symonenko, first deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, commented on this draft.

He pointed out that the present-day KPU is striving to restore the rule of law, because the decision by the Supreme Council presidium was purely political in nature and had no legal basis whatsoever. The procurator general's office also confirmed this.

Mr. Symonenko said that the present-day KPU is a successor to the ideas of the communists of the past decades, although not all the ideas but only the "best traditions of the party, not its mistakes and blunders."

Dwelling on the law on nationalizing the property of KPRS-KPU [Communist Party of the Soviet Union-Communist Party of Ukraine], Petro Symonenko said: "We will consider this issue proceeding from the laws currently in force. Despite the promises to nationalize this property, the bulk of it was passed to commercial structures. In Kiev alone about 60 percent of the overall value of property was commercialized. Therefore, we will definitely make an inventory and tell everyone how this property was used. We will see who possesses this property. And then we will make a collective decision, either at a plenum or at a congress, on the further use of this property. Undoubtedly, this question must be raised."

Cholera Spreading in Nikolayev, Surrounding Areas

LD2409182294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1804 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—A total of 1,006 cholera victims and 1,065 carriers of cholera germs have been registered in Dagestan since the beginning of the epidemics, sources at the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations told ITAR-TASS today. Another three cholera patients and five carriers of cholera germ have been registered in the area within the past 24 hours.

At the same time, the situation has stabilized and not a single fatal cholera case has been revealed over the past month.

On the contrary, Ukraine is witnessing cholera spread. The governmental commission against cholera headed by Ukrainian First Vice-Premier Valeriy Samoplavskiy acquainted itself today with the epidemiological situation in Nikolayev and adjoining areas and measures taken by the local authorities to localize the disease and eliminate cholera nidi.

Some 200 cholera patients have been registered in Nikolayev and eight districts of the region. Three fatal cholera cases were reported in Nikolayev and the town of Bashtanka.

A congress of Ukrainian Muslims has been postponed in the Crimea in connection with the cholera epidemics. The majority of schools have been closed. Their example may soon be followed by rest houses of Yalta and Alushta. A total of 100 cholera patients and carriers of cholera germ have been registered in the area. Seven of them have died.

Official Views Epidemic, Drinking Water

AU2609092194 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 22 Sep 94 p 4

[Interview with Anhelina Viktorivna Moyiseyeva, head of the Main Sanitary-Epidemiologic Administration at Ukraine's Ministry of Health and first deputy chief state sanitary inspector, by DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA correspondent Valentyna Skoropadska; place and date not given: "Cholera—Ahead of Us and Anthrax—Behind?"]

[Text] [Skoropadska] Anhelina Viktorivna, the sanitary situation in the world and in our country, in particular, has deteriorated drastically. This especially concerns dangerous infectious diseases.

[Moyiseyeva] Distressing as it may be, this is true. First and foremost, as they say, cholera began to tread on our heals. For example, according to the official data of the World Health Organization, this year, 14,959 cases of cholera have been recorded in Peru, 4,742—in Guatemala, and 7,909—in Somalia. Cholera has spread extensively in Rwanda and Zaire, where, in accordance with unofficial data, more than 500,000 cases have been diagnosed.

Operational data of the Russian State Committee for Sanitary-Epidemiologic Inspection indicate that, in the Russian Federation, 542 cases have been revealed of persons suffering from cholera or carrying the infection. More specifically, in Dagestan—293 patients and 236 carriers, in Moscow—four patients and eight carriers, and in Yessentuki—one patient. However, as you understand, this information refers to a certain period of time, and the situation is constantly changing.

Cholera has also found its way into Ukraine. This is testified to by the fact that the pathogenic agent was found in environmental facilities of the Crimean Republic and in Dnipropetrovsk, Poltava, and Kharkiv oblasts, where 14 strains of the cholera vibrion could be identified.

Between 9 and 21 September alone, in Ukraine, 147 cases of cholera were diagnosed, including 44 cases in Simferopol, 27 in Simferopol Rayon, and five in Kherson Oblast. One-third of the whole number of patients are people without any definite place of residence whose life style is quite disorderly. These patients were hospitalized in an infectious diseases ward, where they received the necessary specialized help. All those people who were in contact with the patients, are under constant medical observation. In order to reveal and treat patients with suspected cholera, house to house rounds are being practiced in all those oblasts where outbreaks of the disease have been recorded; all those people who are suffering from acute intestinal infections, are tested in laboratories. Altogether more than 6,000 persons have been examined.

Over the period of epidemic complications, 5,000 samples from environmental facilities have been examined for cholera. These facilities include water of open water reservoirs, drinking water, sewage, foodstuffs, wash-outs, and so on. In Simferopol, the cholera vibrion was isolated from sewage and in Nikolayev Oblast—from home-processed sprats. In view of the situation, state sanitary-epidemiologic supervision over facilities of increased epidemic risk (communal facilities, pre-school children's institutions, schools, and places of mass gatherings of the population) has been intensified. However, owing to the fact that some patients with a serious course of the disease come from anti-social strata of the population, the sanitary-technical situation is extremely unsatisfactory, and no radical anti-cholera measures are being taken, primarily, good drinking water is in very short supply; it can, unfortunately, be expected that the epidemic situation will deteriorate further.

[Skoropadska] How can people be protected from this extremely dangerous disease?

[Moyiseyeva] Emergency anti-epidemic commissions have presently been created within the government of the Crimean Republic and in all those oblasts where cholera was revealed. The commissions coordinate anti-cholera measures. Specialists of research institutes work in the field. These are, in particular, specialists from the Kiev Scientific Research Institute of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases, the Ukrainian Research Hygiene Center, the Central Sanitary-Epidemiologic Station of the Odessa and Crimea Anti-Plague stations headed by Ukraine's chief sanitary inspector V. Mariyevskyy. We are trying to systematically control the cholera epidemic situation in Ukraine.

[Skoropadska] Anhelina Viktorivna, the "historic" disease, which people call Siberian [Sybirka], has returned to us. As it turns out, the pathogenic agents of this disease live in the soil for about 100 years.

[Moyiseyeva] This is true. Anthrax makes itself felt. I will start with the following case history. Christmas was celebrated in a Western Ukrainian settlement. You know that on these holidays, people often put on sheepskins turned inside out or the hide with horns on the head. One of the residents in that settlement did just that. However, his merrymaking did not last long, because a huge furuncle developed on his forehead. It was anthrax, which he had contracted from the hide of the slaughtered animal.

The epidemic situation regarding that disease has also deteriorated. For example, in the village of Voykovo in Leninskyy Rayon of the Crimean Republic, 26 cases of anthrax have been diagnosed among those people who had worked on the lease farm for fattening the cattle and among those people who helped process the carcasses of dead animals. In accordance with operational data, 20 out of 200 heads of the livestock died. In the villages of Sukhodillya and Zaluzzya in Volodymyr-Volynskyy Rayon of Volyn Oblast, two cases of anthrax in people have been diagnosed. One of the victims soon died. The disease had been caused by the contact with infected animals.

On the territory of Ukraine, more than 10,000 locations, posing anthrax threat, have been detected. I mean spores of the anthrax pathogenic agent in soil. As you know, it lives for more than 100 years. However, in certain weather conditions, as was the case this year—heat, the digging of canals—viruses get into gutters, animals drink water and contract the disease. The disease also strikes animals, because they are not vaccinated against it. Three persons got the disease in Zaporizhzhya Oblast.

It must be said, though, that all centers of anthrax have presently been localized. However, nobody can guarantee that it will not break out again somewhere with fresh intensity.

[Skoropadska] Do you like to say a few words about the sanitary-epidemiologic situation in Ukraine?

[Moyiseyeva] Yes, it has greatly deteriorated since the second half of July. Nine outbreaks of dysentery, salmonella infection, and food poisoning have been recorded (in Donetsk, Luhansk, Odessa, Nikolayev, Lvov, Kharkiv, and Kirovohrad oblasts). Six of these cases were diagnosed in health centers. During the last weeks of July alone, two outbreaks of acute intestinal infections were recorded in Luhansk Oblast—among the population of the settlement of the "Miusynska" Mine and in the old people's home in the town of Antratsit. Altogether 127 persons, including 37 children, were affected. In the former case, the outbreak of dysentery was caused by drinking water contaminated by sewage. In the latter case, it was due to using water from the fire-brigade's reservoir. Some of the 68 patients in the home for old people and invalids have died. The evidence on those responsible have been submitted to investigative bodies.

According to operational data of the State Sanitary-Epidemiologic Commission, the quality of drinking water throughout Ukraine has deteriorated, in particular, in Vinnytsya, Kiev, Khmelnytskyy, and Chernivtsi oblasts. In water supply facilities in the above oblasts, one in every four or five water samples do not conform to sanitary requirements in terms of their bacteriologic indexes. We were compelled to close beaches in Ukraine's southeastern oblasts, as those beaches had been hazardous for the health of the holiday-makers. By now, beaches in Odessa have been closed and also individual beaches in Nikolayev, Zaporizhzhya, and Donetsk oblasts.

[Skoropadska] As far as I am concerned, some time ago, the Ministry of Health sent requests to chairmen of people's councils in every oblast to pay particular attention to the quality of drinking water. What are the results?

[Moyiseyeva] Some (of the oblast councils' chairmen) found it necessary to reply, others did not. It is disheartening that when we did get replies, they sounded like "Everything's fine, my lady!" The Ministry of Health believes that the problem of drinking water is acquiring nationwide significance, because it is essential both for the human body and for all life. If the drinking water is suitable, people's health will appreciably improve.

[Skoropadska] What is being done in order to somehow protect the population from all these diseases?

[Moyeseyeva] Teams of specialists have been commissioned to those oblasts where the sanitary-epidemiologic situation has lately deteriorated. These teams will render practical assistance to health institutions and bodies on the spot. Explanatory work is being conducted on how to prevent infectious diseases or food poisoning. A system of mutual information has been established with CIS countries, primarily, Russia, Belarus, and Moldova. Whenever violations of sanitary-hygienic norms and rules are revealed, administrative measures are being taken. This year alone, more than 30,000 transgressors have been fined and more than 8,000 institutions have temporarily stopped working.

Fishing Banned in Affected Regions

AU2609104894 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 23 Sep 94 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Beware: Cholera!"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Health Protection Center has disseminated information to the effect that fish caught in water reservoirs is one of the factors in the transmission of the cholera vibrion. For that reason, V. Mariyevskyy, Ukraine's state chief sanitary inspector, banned fishing in those regions where the cholera vibrion had been detected. Fish caught in water bodies of the Crimean Republic and of Kherson, Nikolayev, and Zaporizhzhya oblasts prior to 21 September 1994 needs to be thermally processed. The failure to fulfill this directive is punishable by law in accordance with current legislation.

SBU Chief on Fight Against Organized Crime

WS2309114594 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 15 Sep 94 p 3

[Interview with Security Service Chairman Valeriy Malikov by Viktor Konovalenko; place and date not given: "The Special Service Is Not Against the Rich; It Is Against Criminals"]

[Text] The Ukrainian presidential edict "On Urgent Measures for Intensifying the Battle Against Crime" has been in force since 21 July. The press, radio, and television have flashed names of firms, amalgamations, associations, and banks—both private and state-owned—which have fallen under the force of the edict and are currently being scrupulously examined by investigators and revisors.

On 27 September, the president issued an edict on intensifying the fight against corruption and other economic crimes. The edict envisions the establishment of joint investigative-operational groups comprising workers of the Office of Attorney General, the Interior Ministry, and the Security Service of Ukraine [SBU], to investigate particularly difficult crimes.

Why are they joint? Maybe because concentration of power in one pair of hands, meaning ensuring secrecy and efficiency, is in such cases the only tactic to examine problems in which law enforcement bodies are interested? This question opened up the conversation between our correspondent and SBU Chairman Valeriy Malikov.

Valeriy Vasylovych Malikov was born on 30 March 1942 in the city of Mariupol, Donetsk Oblast. After school, he was a worker and went through real military service. Since 1970, he has been working in state security bodies and advanced from an operational worker to SBU first deputy chairman. He is a graduate of Kharkov University; he is an economist.

On 12 July 1994, the Ukrainian Supreme Council approved V. Malikov's candidacy for SBU chairman.

[Malikov] The crime world is uniting, and law enforcement agencies should also act jointly. Besides, the time of education has passed; we must act...

[Konovalenko] There is the following concern among businessmen: Will the special service not begin meddling in the work of enterprises without justifiable cause?

[Malikov] Functions of law enforcement bodies are limited by current legislation, which must be obeyed by everyone. Those who violate it will be brought to account...

[Konovalenko] Nevertheless, does such activity not mean that the SBU and your colleagues from the Office of Attorney General and the Interior Ministry are against the rich, since all of this somehow resembles another wave of "expropriation of expropriators?" Does the SBU not have any more important matters?

[Malikov] Of course, we do—in the area of intelligence and counterintelligence. However, as Ukrainian President L.D. Kuchma emphasized in his address to SBU personnel, this relates to economic crimes which threaten state security, in a broad understanding of this word. In particular, there are attempts to entangle Ukraine in large-scale foreign economic projects, which pose a serious threat involving considerable losses to the state. Taking into account our urgent need for foreign credits and investments, the international criminal business is more and more often trying to engage Ukrainian state-owned and commercial organizations in dubious credit and banking operations. As we see it, the point is a threat to our national security, the protection of which is our duty.

We have not, and we are not going to deal with pickpockets, street market extortionists, or other petty criminals—appropriate law enforcement bodies must keep them in check. This is their area of activity, since the special services monitor and investigate criminal processes which threaten national security.

You must agree that every state needs a strong economy, which is supposed to create wealth and become a source of progress. In economically developed countries, the pillars of wealth, as a rule, are financial geniuses and talented organizers of production, who earn money not only for themselves, but also contribute to the prosperity of their nation. U.S. oil tycoon John Paul Getty, in particular, formulated the following principle of a businessman: To become a billionaire, one primarily needs success, a great deal of knowledge and ability to work, and, first of all, the mentality of a billionaire. The main feature of such a mentality is law-obedience: A businessman who conceals his profits and evades taxes (meaning that he pilfers his nation) cannot count on support from his partners; he inevitably violates the law. The lingering conflict between the U.S. legal system and well known businessman Mark Rich, who is hunted by Western law enforcement organizations, can serve as a vivid example.

Let us now look at who is who in our business world. Although I am not going to present all representatives of our new class of businessmen in an unattractive light, an analysis of the situation in our national economy allows me to come to the conclusion that many of them have done a lot to bring it to the current status. Let us also take into account that their actions do not simply mean losses to the state and misery of the nation. They also cause irreparable damage to the morale of society, since, holding a high position not only in the area of criminal activities but also in the country's business and social life, they acquire an unpunished and unattainable reputation for justice authorities.

[Konovalenko] The "achievements" of the former "Ukrnaftokhim" managers in this area are worth recalling...

[Malikov] The imperfectness of our legislation regulating economic relations in the period of transition to a market economy has made it possible for commercial organizations to use the legal vacuum in purposes beneficial for them, without violating the current laws. Law enforcement bodies, unfortunately, have not had legal grounds to directly interfere in developments, though while investigating a mechanism for such embezzlements, the SBU came forward with appropriate initiatives regarding bringing the law in line with current demands.

The situation in Ukraine's oil-refining industry, which developed between 1991 and 1993, is still typical for our economy. The events were developing according to the following scenario: The state would purchase oil in Russia in quantities and prices defined by international agreements, meaning that we all—the taxpayers—paid for this energy source. The raw material was then refined at state-owned oil refining companies, and a part of the products—gasoline and diesel and oil fuel—was sold by... commercial organizations, which were established at these plants and led by confidential people close to the "Ukrnaftokhim" leadership. Prices, at this stage, were, let us say, reasonable. The commercial organizations, however, while reselling the scarce energy sources to state-owned enterprises, farms, and other organizations, would incredibly overestimate its price. They actually robbed the state, all of us.

It is symptomatic that the money coming from such speculations was spent neither on the development of the oil-refining industry nor social protection of the company staffs. The money was deposited in foreign banks and worked for other economies; a part of it was laundered in the process of the so-called privatization, and what was not long ago state property became the property of scroungers in this way.

Now tell me: How should we deal with this sort of fortunes and their owners.

[Konovalenko] The theoreticians of political economy, however, agree in their opinions that initial private capital is almost always of a criminal nature. Where can one find money during the period of birth of market relations, if not long ago a car was the climax of common workers' dreams?

[Malikov] I do not agree with your way of wording this question: The times of the wild West and merchants' petty tyranny passed long ago, and the largest material riches in civilized countries of the world have recently become a consequence of persistent work and intensive search for both markets and technologies. Cases of pilfering a state were decisively halted.

What happened in our country (for example, in the oil-refining industry) the world terms unequivocally and without any connotations—corruption. The Eighth UN Congress, which drafted and approved a package of recommendations regarding practical measures for combating corruption, warned that this sort of crime is able to annihilate all potential efficiency of all government programs. The international forum recommended to impose decisive sanctions on those who "illegally use time and work of state (I will emphasize—state!) officials, quarters, and equipment," since—I continue to quote the congress resolution—"illegal prosperity of officials, even if it does not cause losses to a state, damages the status of morale in the state." To put it more simply, having a bad example, you will also become bad, and to avoid it, a crime must be uprooted...

[Konovalenko] This means that one must reach for the root, the foothold of a crime. Will you succeed however?

[Malikov] Before putting behind bars con artists, who held high posts in the Foreign Economic Relations and

Economy Ministries, SBU operational workers and investigators had to unravel a network of crimes committed by dozens of smaller swindlers. The trace would lead from the top to a rayon, or even lower level...

[Konovalenko] It seems that you will not liquidate the system of SBU city district departments anytime soon?

[Malikov] Every branch of the SBU performs its function. Our workers are countered not by dilettantes, but by well organized and equipped criminal organizations. The outflow of qualified cadres from the SBU and the Interior Ministry to, first of all, commercial and banking organizations has been going on for quite a long time. By taking away professional knowledge and preserving connections with law enforcement bodies, they are able to neutralize law enforcers' efforts aimed at disclosing financial and other machinations.

In May, criminal activities of one of the so-called criminal investigation agencies, which dealt with operational-investigative actions, were uncovered in the Kharkov region. Its structure included operational, visual surveillance, and other units, and it was armed with firearms and special equipment. Its workers had forged identification cards of law enforcement bodies, and they had enough money to bribe officials.

Here is another example. In the beginning of this summer in Kiev, a helicopter, automatic machine guns, rifles, handguns, false seals and letterheads from various banks and insurance companies were seized with the "Romero Holding" limited liability company director and his partners. Everyone from a rayon subunit operational worker to specialists from the SBU Central Directorate worked to intercept the group's preparations for a criminal action.

As we can see, since the crime world flexes its muscles, the belief that saving on security is one of the most unreasonable savings still makes sense.

[Konovalenko] However, not primitive burglars, but thieves- intellectuals pose the most serious threat to our national economy...

[Malikov] Criminal groups have recently been attempting to force their way to the political Mt. Olympus and obtain the levers of state authority to influence the media. These attempts are most vividly illustrated by the developments in Crimea.

Organized criminal groups have also stepped up their activities in the area of state credits and finances. The protection against them is an urgent task of law enforcement bodies, because an apparently decent and respectable official with criminal intentions can (and does!) cause great damage to the state.

Here is a recent example. In late-July, criminal charges were brought against the managers of the Lisbank Chernivtsi branch, who caused losses to the bank, which amounted to 16 billion karbovanetses [K], deliberately violating the current law. Even more active were the general accountant of the Prominvestbank Melitopol branch and the "Monolit" cooperative company managers, who robbed the state of K40 billion, and investigators will now have to work hard to return the money to the state coffers.

As was done, by the way, by our colleagues from Lvov. While investigating foreign economic activities of the "Lvivtranshaz" Gas Mains Directorate, they revealed that the directorate had $4,784,149 in foreign bank accounts, in violation of the current law. Let us say things in plain words—it was investing in a foreign economy. Tell me, please, what country would tolerate similar things. So, we had to return the money to our homeland. Along with workers of the Interior Ministry and the Office of Attorney General, we have recently located and neutralized over 20 criminal groups, which attempted to move money from the state pocket into their own with the help of banking officials—we have thus prevented losses to the state amounting to over K50 billion.

[Konovalenko] So, in addition to its primary intelligence and counterintelligence functions, the SBU has to cope with smart guys who want to become rich as quickly as possible...

[Malikov] They want to become rich in a dishonest way. I will repeat: The special service is not against the rich; it is against criminals, who infringe on something more than the state economy.

The SBU's investigative and operational subunits have been, or are still conducting 1,300 criminal and 700 operational- investigative cases, the main "cast" of which is composed of schemers from the country's banking and credit-financial systems. Everyone will be punished according to his crime.

However, this is not the main thing. The main thing for the special service is to reveal and unravel the mechanism for criminal activities, which paralyses the national economy, provokes social tensions, and finally threatens peace and harmony in the state.

[Konovalenko] We wish you success!

[Malikov] Thank you.

Navy Calls Black Sea Fleet Statement Provocative

LD2509135194 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1415 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Sevastopol—On 21 September the Black Sea Fleet press center disseminated a statement accusing the command of Ukraine's Navy of having "proposed to include in the composition of the Navy the Black Sea Fleet's military trade directorate and having perpetrated a number of unlawful actions with the aim of inclining the military trade labor collectives to transfer to its jurisdiction."

The press center of Ukraine's Navy has stated that in accordance with a directive of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense, the reorganization of military trade was occurring in Ukraine's Armed Forces. In connection with this, the issue of creating a military trade system in Ukraine's Navy really was being studied in June of this year. However, it was decided then not to conduct the reorganization in garrisons where fleet forces are also based until the Black Sea Fleet problem is finally resolved. The head of the Black Sea Fleet's military trade directorate was informed of this in a timely manner by the chief of staff and first deputy commander of Ukraine's Navy.

"Taking into account that there had been no 'unlawful actions' concerning military trade labor collectives on the part of Ukraine's Navy Command, one cannot call the statement by the Black Sea Fleet press center anything other than provocation," - the document notes.

Space Agency Director Interviewed on Plans

WS2309145094 Kiev KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 21 Sep 94 p 6

[Interview with Andrey Zhalko-Titarenko, acting director of the National Space Agency, by Oles Buzyna, place and date not given: "So Far, We Are Siamese Twins With Russia in Outer Space"]

[Text] Thinking logically, Ukraine should have received its "piece" of the Soviet outer space. Only, how large is it and what can one do with this "piece"? This was my question to Andrey Zhalko-Titarenko, acting director of the National Space Agency. (By the way, the agency itself is located on the 20th floor of the only skyscraper in Kiev on Lvov Square).

[Buzyna] What was space for the Soviet Union and what will it become for Ukraine? What is the concept of the development of the national space industry?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] For the Soviet Union it was primarily an area through which ballistic missiles flew. This is the field that consumed most of the money. Ukraine was the place where the "nuclear missile shield" was designed. Almost everything that posed a threat to the United States was made in our country. Of the 20 Soviet heavy ballistic missiles, 12 were developed at the "Yuzhnoye" design office in Dnepropetrovsk. The Kharkov-based "Khartron" scientific and manufacturing amalgamation and a range of other companies were deeply involved in that project.

In fact, we have inherited 30 percent of the Soviet rocket building and space potential: One of five missile design offices, one of three offices dealing with operating systems, etc. This is more than enough for Ukraine to cripple the development of the CIS rocket industry.

[Buzyna] Does this mean that the Russian and Ukrainian space industries will be closely interwoven?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] So far, we are Siamese twins with Russia in space. The operating system for the "Energiya" complex, "Buran," was developed in Kharkov. The Kiev Radio Plant is the world's only manufacturer of the modern docking operating systems. Operating systems for "Soyuz" and "Proton" rockets are manufactured by the "Kommunar" Kharkov Plant. The refueling system for "Proton" is also made here, but exploited at the Baykonur launching site. If Ukraine or Russia now begin to squander their meager, compared to the past times, resources in a bid to restore what is on their neighbor's territory, we will simply waste time and go out of the international competition. A struggle is under way for commercial launchings. By repeating the past, we will be thrown behind France and the United States in this field.

[Buzyna] Will the Ukrainian space program be a purely commercial undertaking?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] It is interesting, of course, to have a priority such as the exploration of Mars. This is fun. However, our program pursues very pragmatic goals. It envisions the creation of satellite communications systems (to render services ranging from Ufa to Madrid) and the launching of a series of remote surveillance satellites to monitor the ecological situation on Earth. Russia needs this.

[Buzyna] Does Ukraine have its own operational satellites yet?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] Right now, we are jointly using the space grouping of the Soviet Union. No Ukrainian civilian systems have been launched thus far. But scientific satellites are already in space, because we have an agreement with Russia regarding them on cooperation and information exchange. We also intend to conclude an agreement on economic-purpose satellites. Russia has expressed readiness for this. It is just a question of time. In addition, we inherited several space communications and surveillance centers, as well as unique institutes and plants that need to be sustained through hard times. Space equipment technologies produce a strong spin-off effect in other fields of science. In the field of scientific research, we simply continue programs of the former Soviet Union. Costs for this sector do not exceed 8 percent of the general funding.

[Buzyna] How much does your space program cost?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] For 1994, 1.1 trillion coupons, which accounts for 0.3 percent of the state budget expenditures. In terms of its share in the budget, this is how much an average Central European state spends on this sphere. Over the past two years, this money kept all our potential operational. We receive many components from Russia, and vice versa.

[Buzyna] Are there any disruptions in supplies?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] Of course, there are. Nevertheless, we continue to fly. On 26 August, another "Zenith" rocket (our basic working rocket) was successfully launched from the Baykonur at the request of the Russian military.

[Buzyna] We do not have our own launching site. If my memory serves me well, only France, the United States, China, and Kazakhstan do.

[Zhalko-Titarenko] No, Kazakhstan leased its site to Russia for 20 years with the possibility of extending. Incidentally, we intend to link our supplies to the Baykonur with its utilization for launching the "Zenith" rockets. This launching site will hardly work without our participation. I believe we will reach an understanding with our Russian and Kazakh partners. At least, I see no reluctance to come to terms on the part of the other sides.

Now about a Ukrainian launching site. If we fail to create a space complex for launching a rocket from the "Mriya" shuttle, we will not resolve this problem, because we have no room for the first stage to fall. The boosters will fall on towns in Georgia, Turkey, or Russia. Sure, we could find some exotic places, but settling for the Baykonur would be the simplest solution.

[Buzyna] There is a reserve landing strip for the "Buran" in Crimea, "Simpferopol-2." Will Ukraine participate in the program with a Russian shuttle?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] The "Buran" is closed now. Completely. Its financing has practically come to a standstill. It is also possible that we might be able to manage to develop something based on the vast experience obtained from the work on the "Enerhiya" rocket. These kinds of talks are already under way. So far, however, no bilateral agreements have been signed.

[Buzyna] And what are the policies of countries with no launching site?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] Ukraine is a unique country. It received the rocket industry without its own launching site. As a rule, these two things develop side by side. Even Spain, a newcomer in the space industry, has its own launching facility. It has small rockets and a tiny launching ground.

[Buzyna] A report popped up in the press that we are going to build a launching site in Australia? What was that about?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] A project.

[Buzyna] Really?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] We are having talks on this. As you understand, we have more pressing tasks than building a launching site on Cape-York peninsula, amid topical jungles. I am not sure about cannibals, there are some across the strait in Papua, New Guinea. The tropical climate is no better than the arctic one for construction. Of course, this is Australia's northernmost point, right near the equator. It is an ideal place in terms of geographical territory you can cover with satellite communications. Oceania, Indonesia, and the Philippines are the main countries where the ground communications will never work. However, from what I know, no political documents in this sphere were ever signed. But we are ready to sign them. Ukraine and Australia only held consultations.

[Buzyna] Whose idea was that?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] That of Australian commercial companies and the "Yuzhnoye" design office. This issue was discussed during a visit by Deputy Foreign Minister Oleksandr Makarenko to Australia. I hope that the consultations will resume when a delegation from the Australian Space Agency comes to our country. Still, it is a very long way to some tangible results, even though I would not like to rule out this possibility, because neither Ukraine nor Australia, as I heard, have any money for this.

[Buzyna] There is evidence that Americans, in cooperation with our northern neighbor [Russia], will use cheap carriers...

[Zhalko-Titarenko] Yes, this may be possible as part of the "Alpha" station international space project. Without Russian rockets, it could hardly be implemented due to high costs. Let me also add that this project will also fail without the Ukrainian side. The "Khartron" has already started work to develop the station's operating system. The docking operating system is being developed by the Kiev Radio Plant. Both systems are extremely reliable. Recent problems in the orbit were connected not with the operating system, but with the fact that the "truck" was overloaded.

[Buzyna] Is the industry affected by the brain drain?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] Of course, it is. However, the drain is directed not to Husayn or al-Qadhdhafi, but to commercial structures, where the pay is higher. Nevertheless, chief specialists remained. The SS-18, the most powerful ballistic missile (dubbed "Satan" by the Americans), was created by the same group that designed the trolley bus. This group is in pretty good shape.

[Buzyna] Have I missed something in my questions?

[Zhalko-Titarenko] I think we have covered all the interesting issues. Only, I would like to emphasize this once again: We are far from ready to throw our miserable coupons into outer space. The space grouping of the Soviet Union will cease to fly in two years. And then, Russia, "Eutelsat," "intelsat," or other organizations will charge us world prices for vital services. It is better to spend coupons now than dollars in the future. It is impossible to resolve issues concerning environmental monitoring, cartography, and geodesy without the space industry. We are forced to be involved in this sphere.

Continuing Reportage on Crimean Government Crisis

Ukrainian Parliament Adopts Resolution

LD2309174294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1650 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Kiev September 23 UKRINFORM-TASS—The Ukrainian parliament adopted a resolution on Thursday entitled "On the Political and Legal Situation in the Crimea". The text, received by ITAR-TASS today, states that the "political crisis in the Crimea is due to the extremely unsatisfactory resolution of social and economic problems and the incapability of the executive and legislative branches to find common, effective approaches to their solution".

Basing its judgement on the analysis of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, prepared by the Provisional Deputies' Commission of the Ukrainian parliament, which worked in the Crimea from September 16 to 20, 1994, the Ukrainian parliament voted to agree with the appraisal of the Crimean situation contained in the announcement of the parliament's presidium from September 12 of this year and with the conclusions of the deputies' commission.

The parliament, the document says, has decided to turn to the president as the guarantor of Ukraine's constitution and laws with a proposal to undertake steps to bring the normative acts issued by the executive authorities of the Republic of Crimea into line with the country's Constitution and legislation. In particular, the resolution referred to Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov's decrees suspending the republic's parliament and local councils at all levels. The parliament said such decrees are leading to the destruction of people's power in the peninsular republic.

In addition, the Ukrainian parliament has given the Supreme Court of Crimea until November 1 to revise the autonomous republic's Constitution and normative acts in line with the Constitution and legislation of Ukraine.

It was also decided that the Provisional Deputies' Commission on the situation in the Crimea should continue its work.

The parliamentary resolution noted that, in case the Crimean parliament does not heed the current instructions, then the Ukrainian parliament, jointly with the Commission for Legal Policy and Judicial-Legislative Reform, shall work out a draft resolution on the proper measures to take regarding the Crimea, according to Ukraine's Constitution and legislation.

The parliamentary resolution also noted that the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers should help the autonomous Crimean Republic prepare for the 1994-1995 winter and improve the sanitary condition on the peninsula.

Kuchma Urges Bringing Legislation in Line

LD2309190894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1532 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; Edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] President Leonid Kuchma has called for parliamentary support for a resolution aimed at bringing Crimean legislation into line with Ukraine's.

He also called on deputies to give specific attention and respond accordingly to the situation in Crimea.

"I can annul Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov's decree, but the problem will remain", Kuchma said.

He said that none of the Crimean parliament's resolutions was in line with Ukrainian legislation.

Kuchma said his main policy priority in respect of Crimea would be to try to preserve calm there, complaining about a lack of coordination on the issue between himself and parliament.

Addressing the residents of Crimea, Kuchma said both the Crimean parliament and president were engaged in a power struggle instead of attending to economic matters in hand.

In a late night vote on Thursday, the Ukrainian parliament approved a resolution on the situation in Crimea with 305 deputies voting for and 26 against it.

The Crimean parliament is given until November 1 to realign its constitution with Ukraine's. The Crimean president is recommended to annul his decrees on suspending the parliament and local legislature leading, as Ukrainian deputies put it, "to the overhauling of democracy in the autonomy".

Negotiations Deadlock

LD2509091394 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0800 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Attempts by the Crimean authorities to settle the issues which caused the political crisis in the autonomy have come to a deadlock. According to the Crimean Supreme Council press center, President Yuriy Meshkov did not rescind his decree on terminating the activities of parliament and local councils of the autonomous republic, as he reported at the plenary sitting of Crimea's Supreme Council, but only suspended it. However, for the time being one cannot talk even about suspending this document because the relevant decision comes into force only after its promulgation, the Crimean deputies believe. Meanwhile, its text, according to the Crimean Supreme Council press center, was not even passed to the mass media. Besides, at a meeting with the Crimean Supreme Council commission Yuriy Meshkov said he would continue negotiations only after the Crimean parliament rescinded its decision which restricted the president's powers. The situation, which took shape after the first round of the meeting between the executive and legislative powers in Crimea, was to be considered at an expanded sitting of the Crimean Supreme Council presidium on 23 September. However, due to a number of circumstances, the sitting was postponed to a later date.

Delegation Head Comments on Crisis

944K2380A Simferopol KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 94 p 1

[G. Avachinskiy report: "News Conference of the Commission of the Supreme Council of Ukraine: We Will Report at the Session, It Will Be Seen There..."]

[Text] As we know, for a resolution of the constitutional crisis that has arisen in Crimea the Supreme Council of Ukraine sent here a delegation of its deputies headed by independent deputy Yuriy Karmazin. On 20 September, prior to departure from the republic, the commission conducted a news conference.

It became clear from the responses to the journalists' questions that the commission was not empowered to make any decisions and that its members do not consider themselves mediators between the conflicting branches of power and that their main mission was to assemble the fullest possible information on the situation here and report it at the next sitting of the session of the Supreme Council of Ukraine.

Yu. Karmazin gave no direct answer to the question of what the actions of the Ukrainian parliament might be in the event of the Crimean authorities failing to reach a compromise, but he hinted by citing an example: Following a decision of the Lvov Oblast Council contradicting, in the opinion of Ukrainian legislators, the Constitution of Ukraine, there was a warning from Kiev concerning the dissolution of the oblast council in the event of a repeat violation of the basic law.

Many members of the commission believe that the conflict could be resolved by local forces, without the intervention of the "big brother." It is necessary for this to create a constitutional court in Crimea. But, as Yu. Karmazin observed, the Ukrainian Constitution makes no provision for the existence of such a court in Crimea. Nor, for that matter, the member of parliament acknowledged, does the Constitution make any provision for the institution of a presidency in our republic either.... Kiev's approach to the problem was demonstrated here also:

"Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, which in terms of population and industrial potential is not inferior to Crimea, lives without a president and without a parliament!"

The deputies that had come to Crimea took great umbrage at the question as to what kind of dignity they had in agreeing to a meeting with the president of the republic, who had in the past called for a boycott of the elections for the Supreme Council of Ukraine.

"Our dignity is in good shape," Yu. Karmazin parried, "we are acting in the name of the achievement of stability not only in Crimea but in Ukraine also."

Instability in the state is preventing the implementation of reforms and the acquisition of loans, but the leader of the commission categorically rejected the assumption that there is a direct connection between the Crimean crisis and Ukraine's economic situation.

"Without Ukraine's assistance Crimea would not survive this winter," Yu. Karmazin observed, but in connection with assistance to the Crimean Tatars, who will not for the first time be spending the winter without electricity, heating, and water, he made it understood that Ukraine does not have the money for this.

To a question as to his personal opinion of the current situation, Yuriy Karmazin responded that his viewpoint is based on precise and unconditional obedience to the laws of Ukraine in decisionmaking in Crimea. But we have already gone through this—shall we redraw the Crimean Constitution once again? A vicious circle, it would seem.

Meshkov Supporters Urge Referendum

LD2309185694 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1430 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Sevastopol—On the initiative of the town branch of the All-Crimean Movement of Electors for the Republic of Crimea, an unsanctioned rally took place on 22 September with the participation of approximately 130 people. It was devoted to the conflict between the republic's executive and legislative authorities. The participants of the rally adopted a resolution, containing, in particular, a demand to all of the political forces representing the "Russia" bloc in Crimea's Supreme Council to cease defending narrow party interests and become engaged in elaborating emergency measures directed at bringing the peninsula out of the crisis.

In accordance with the law on the president, Crimea's Supreme Council, the resolution says, is to make changes and additions to the republic's Constitution on the president as head of state, restore the law on the president and grant him the said right of head of state; revoke the resolution of 9 July 1992 with regard to holding a referendum, which declared the moratorium on holding a referendum with regard to Crimea's independence illegal, and hold it no later than 18 December 1994; confirm a program to stabilize the economy and bring the republic out of the crisis.

It was proposed that Crimea's Supreme Council chairman and Crimea's president report to the voters on the work they had done in the mass media by 1 November.

Saburov Confirms Intention To Resign

LD2409162694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Crimean Vice Premier Yevgeniy Saburov has confirmed his intention to resign. He said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine today that the political crisis in Crimea would not be resolved soon and there would be no opportunity for working normally.

Saburov said he thought that the Crimean parliament was responsible for the crisis as it had "made the Crimean president be like a British queen." Saburov said that probably actions of the Crimean president were "not very adroit but soft on the whole and were a reaction to the parliament's decision."

Saburov said the proposal of the Ukrainian president to go back to the "zero option" was wise but "winners fascinated with their victory want to rule."

Saburov applied for resignation a week ago. The Crimean parliament voted no confidence in the Crimean government. However, Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov refused to accept the resignation of Saburov.

RPK To Discuss Expulsion of Meshkov

LD2409193694 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2240 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Text] Simferopol, 22 Sep—A statement was made at an expanded session of the Coordinating Council of the Republican Party of Crimea [RPK], to the effect that the pro-Meshkov group was trying to split the Republican Party of Crimea, thus altering the party's policy and program. Yuriy Meshkov, who suspended his membership in

RPK, was accused of betraying the principles of the "Russia" bloc and the Republican Party of Crimea. A decision was made to raise the issue at the next congress of RPK on expelling him from the party.

Russian Party of Crimea Holds Second Congress

LD2509100594 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Excerpt] Simferopol, 24 September—The "Russian Party of Crimea" [RPK] has held its second congress. Chairman of the party Serhiy Shuvaynykov delivered a report. He explained the party's defeat at the presidential and parliamentary elections, in particular, by the fact that the "People's and Republican parties of Crimea", which united in a "Russia" bloc, were exploiting the ideas of the "Russian Party" for the sake of gaining victory.

In the opinion of the participants in the congress, the current ruling elite in Crimea betrayed the "Crimean-Russian idea." This is why the "Russian Party of Crimea" decided to go into opposition to the president and the Supreme Council of Crimea. [passage omitted]

Russian Party To Form Shadow Cabinet

LD2409184594 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] The second congress of the Russian Party of Crimea opened on today. Its chairman, Serhiy Shuvaynykov, called on the delegates to discuss the situation, which took shape on the peninsula, in a constructive manner. The political report, delivered by Serhiy Shuvaynykov, says that Moscow and Kiev left the Russian people of Crimea to the mercy of fate. To protect their interests, the party intends to convene a Russian constituent assembly of Crimea at which, according to the scheme, a Russian Duma of Crimea is to be elected. The party intends to unite the Russian population in the name of reuniting Crimea with Russia and, subsequently, in the name of the idea of setting up a single Slavic state that would incorporate Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. During preparations for the fresh elections of the president and parliament of the autonomous republic, the Russian Party intends to form a shadow cabinet to make its supporters ready to work in the official bodies of power.

Split in 'Russia' Group Reported

LD2509104194 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Simferopol, 24 September—The "Russia" group at the Supreme Council of Crimea has split into two groups: "Russia" and "Russia-Unity." The "Russia" group is headed by Serhiy Nikulin, member of the Crimean Supreme Council presidium, deputy chairman of the Republican Party of Crimea, and chairman of the standing commission for state building, legislation, legality, and law and order. The membership of the group (it existed earlier) has decreased by 18 people. These 18 people, who broke away from the "Russia" group, formed the "Russia-Unity" group, headed by the deputy commander of the Black Sea Fleet, deputy to the Supreme Council of Crimea, Vice-Adm Oleksandr Frolov. The group defends the president's stand.

Belarus

Border Negotiations Held With Ukraine

WS2309131194 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] At the Belarusian Foreign Ministry, delegations of Belarus and Ukraine have held a third round of negotiations on delineation of the Belarusian-Ukrainian state border. As a BELINFORM correspondent has learned, in the course of the meeting the sides agreed on the main sections of the state border between the two countries, and decided to continue their work after a resolution on the entire border is passed.

The next meeting of the Bilateral Commission for Delineation and Demarcation of the State Border is to be held in Kiev.

Official Views Complicity in Global Policies

WS2309123094 Minsk NARODNAYA GAZETA in Russian 10-12 Sep 94 p 3

[Article by First Deputy Foreign Minister Valeryy Tsepkala: "Aspiration to Neutrality Does Not Prevent Belarus From Strengthening Global Peace"]

[Text] Some people say these days that Belarus is not an independent, sovereign state, but strongly depends on various external factors, etc., etc. In fact, while discussing generally the notion of sovereignty and independence in itself, it is necessary to realize that a state is independent only when its government and people have the right to adopt resolutions within the boundaries of its territory. This also can be put another way: Under real sovereignty, we are not directed by anybody as to how we should act in some situation or another.

Of course, one may point to the fact that we have become cluttered with many ties and that many things are not dependent on us, but it is a mistake to assert that the Republic of Belarus is not sovereign. Let us examine the basic components of this important idea and argue a little with the opponents on some aspects of the problem.

What can be said about our position connected with our orientation toward a nonnuclear status? It is known that Belarus is the first country in the world, that has renounced the possession of nuclear weapons and, in accordance with this, joined the Nonproliferation Treaty as well as ratified the START-1 Treaty and the Lisbon Protocol. It is hardly expedient now to discuss whether it was a mistake or not, or whether it was worth playing the role of a nuclear state as it is done now, for example, by Ukraine. I think that this is an accomplished fact which cannot be revised. All the more that this was a resolution not only by the government, but also by the parliament which ratified this resolution. For this reason, the position of Belarus cannot be changed now. Belarus can serve as an example of model behavior in the international arena. Unfortunately, this behavior does not always call forth appropriate reverberation. In other words, our country's positive behavior does not always bring dividends to Belarus. Regarding this, it is necessary to note that if Belarus' behavior is not encouraged by Western partners in the international arena and if the position of those Western countries granting financial assistance to Belarus for resolving problems connected with nuclear disarmament, is not changed, then it will be their common fault if the Treaty on Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons is not extended in 1995. In my opinion, it is necessary to encourage positive behavior. In this way, developed countries may show what their vision of the global future is—whether they want the world to be nonnuclear or whether the presence of nuclear weapons is to be the sole guarantor of national security. Of course, it would be good to get rid of deadly weapons from our earth. Some people oppose this by holding that the presence of those weapons enhance the level of security, but such arguments are not convincing. Let us recall Chekhov's phrase: If there is a shotgun on the wall, there will surely be a shot some time...

Now about the Partnership for Peace issue. It goes without saying: We must join this humanitarian program. Otherwise, we will remain outside of the integration processes which are under way in Europe and the entire world.

We participate in various systems of security. As known, some time in the past, the North Atlantic Cooperation Council was created for cooperation between Western European countries (in the first place, NATO countries) and former Warsaw Pact countries. But this was only one of the forms, or, more precisely, one of the structures created within the CSCE framework, which added to the warming of the general climate on the European continent.

The Partnership for Peace is a U.S. initiative adopted at a head-of-states NATO conference. This initiative is intended to strengthen integrating processes in the sphere of military and political cooperation without infringing upon the interest of any country.

Recently, a number of Central and East European countries have shown their desire to join NATO. Such a development of events, naturally, may provoke a negative reaction on the part of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine, that is, primarily, on the part of public opinion in these countries. If we assume hypothetically that Poland joins NATO, this will throw Belarus back into the channel of Russian foreign policy, because the people will get the impression that the enemy, so to say, is already at our frontier, and this will induce the strengthening of desires to integrate with Russia instead of with the current European security structures. The Partnership for Peace program does not intend to exclude any single country from participation in cooperation with NATO. This, however, does not absolutely mean that Belarus, a country oriented toward neutrality, may become a NATO bloc member. The program primarily aims not at expanding NATO membership, but at cooperation in military as well as (for the most part) in the political, economic, and information sphere. This is the main issue among those conditioning our state's wish to act hand in hand with other countries in the interests of strengthening peace. There is no violation of the Constitution or the law on military doctrine. The Partnership for Peace program fully suits Belarus' interests.

Our Constitution affirms our aspiration to neutrality. I will stress—the aspiration, and that is good. If we had constitutionally asserted our neutral status, this would have tightly bound us hand and foot to European diplomacy.

The participation in systems of collective security presents no jeopardy to countries striving for neutrality. The most "frightful" thing in this is the existence of supranational bodies adopting resolutions, but they, as the saying goes, cannot lay down the law for us. For example, the European Community Commission. This commission adopts resolution within the limits of its competence, and these resolutions are obligatory to the 12 member countries. Of course, there is no neutrality in this case.

There is also another aspect to this problem. Some countries, regarded earlier as neutral, are now abandoning their neutral positions since they believe that systems of collective security are more efficient. As is known, Sweden, Finland, and Austria intend to become full-fledged members of the European Economic Union [EEU]. Having joined the EEU, they—according to Article 6 of the Maastricht Treaty, which provides for a strategic union between the parties—cannot claim their neutrality any longer. Thus, the only neutral country will be Switzerland which was granted the special status of an international intermediary at the Vienna Congress in 1815 after the Napoleonic Wars. As of today, Swiss neutrality, internationally accepted, is already a traditional notion. None of the global wars affected this country.

From the point of view of its security, it is expedient for Belarus to take a most active part in all security structures.

Formerly, the idea of neutrality, as a rule, was understood as an aspiration to be outside of the basic centers of contradictions between big powers. However, in connection with the fact that even between big powers the disagreements are not of a political nature (they remain economic, strategic, and geopolitical in nature), our wish to remain outside of nonexisting contradictions cannot be fully understood [phrase as published].

Please mark that our aspiration to participate in various systems of collective security does not contradict our Constitution. As is known, Belarus is one of the founders of the United Nations; we are a full-fledged participant in the CSCE process and the North Atlantic Cooperation Council; we are going to sign the Partnership for Peace program. We are assured that the more guarantors of our security the more security can be guaranteed to us.

I would like to say a few words about how we need to treat the issue of participation in peacekeeping operations. Of course, it is not advisable to sent our troops outside Belarus. According to the Constitution, such an action needs approval by the Supreme Soviet. Our military doctrine, however, states that sending our troops abroad is forbidden except in cases connected with peacekeeping efforts by any UN agency. Undoubtedly, our participation in peacekeeping operations is an indicator of our contribution to the upkeep of European stability and security. Such participation can be covered to some extent from our budget, since the equipment which may be destroyed in the course of such operations, can be crossed off the register of the Treaty on Reduction of Conventional Arms in Europe and, second, there are amortization allotments and compensations in the event of loss of equipment.

In their time, both neutral Sweden and Finland participated in UN peacekeeping efforts. Canada and Ireland belonged to the most active peacekeepers. Incidentally, Ireland, notwithstanding its EEU membership, voices its desire to follow the policy of neutrality (as some kind of dissociation from Great Britain's policy).

We are not going to send young boys outside Belarus by force. If this is to take place, it will be accomplished on a strictly voluntary basis. Furthermore, I am sure that there will be many volunteers ready to serve for $600-800 paid to soldiers in peacekeeping operations, and the enlistment may be accomplished on a competitive basis, including primarily those who served in Afghanistan or simply in the army. We have not been given the right to decide for people whether they want to risk their lives and get big money for this, or to stay here, in Belarus, in a relatively secure place. In addition, it is known that many of our citizens already participate in combat activities in Yugoslavia, Abkhazia, the Transdniester region, and other places.

It is not correct to say that it is we who are to blame for sending soldiers abroad and to their deaths. They made their own decisions voluntarily.

It is necessary to note that there are also other forms of participation besides sending a peacekeeping battalion. Within the UN framework, these include participation in groups of international observers, in international police, etc. The dividends from such activities may be felt not only in the political sphere, but also in an economic one.

The scarcity of paper space does not allow for discussing such problems as nonnuclear status, neutrality, and sovereignty in detail. Nevertheless, even a concise review presents the possibility for the following conclusion: Our support for the Partnership for Peace program and participation in peacekeeping operations does not move us away from our goal—to make Belarus a neutral state. My opponents in this issue should drop their solely emotional approach and take a common sense view of domestic and global problems in their broad context.

U.S. Team Tours Defense Conversion Facility

WS2309090094 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0300 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Extraordinary guests yesterday visited Belarus' largest electronic enterprises—the Integral and Planar scientific-production amalgamations. All in all, 28 American managers of leading U.S. electronic companies, which are participating in a special program, arrived in Minsk. Belarus is the third country to be visited by the U.S. team as part of a tour to become familiarized with the course of defense industry conversion.

Kurankow Appointed New Minister of Industry

WS2309131394 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Excerpt] By virtue of a Belarusian presidential edict, Uladzimir Ivanavich Kurankow has been appointed the minister of industry of the Republic of Belarus. [passage omitted]

Energy Ministry Restricts Gas, Electricity Supplies

WS2609095094 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0800 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] The Ministry of Energy, Fuel, and Gas has strengthened its control over the consumption of gas and fuel resources by enterprises. Gas supplies to 31 enterprises were entirely cut off, while nine enterprises stopped consuming gas on their own because of their inability to pay. The Ministry of Energy has also introduced limitations on electricity supplies to the emergency [word indistinct] 38 enterprises. A study into the use of thermal and energy [not further specified] resources showed that their decreased consumption is largely achieved by decreasing production. This is what the SEM DNEY newspaper has reported.

Four 'Prominent' Politicians Seek Russian Citizenship

LD2409143694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1359 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Four prominent Belarussian [Belarusian] politicians have applied to the Russian embassy in Minsk for Russian citizenship, an informed source in the Belarussian parliament told Interfax.

Among them is the leader of the largest parliamentary association Belorussia (more than 120 members), former deputy secretary of state for CIS affairs Gennadiy Kozlov, a high-ranking military commander,, the leader of a political party and the manager of a major industrial enterprise.

The same source reports that behind their decision were recent changes in the political situation. The faction Belarussia supported ex-premier Vyacheslav Kebich during the presidential elections.

Kozlov did not deny this information during an interview with Interfax, but abstained from comments.

The Russian embassy in Minsk did not refute this report either. A high-ranking Russian diplomat said that applications for Russian citizens were coming from people of various standing—from street cleaners to ministers.

Upcoming Supreme Soviet Session Previewed

WS2209134094 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian 20 Sep 94 pp 1, 3

[Report by Valyantsin Zhdanko: "People's Deputies Are Preparing for the Legislative Session, Which Will Probably Not Be the Last for This Legislature"]

[Text] In late September, the center of political activity will slowly transfer itself from the corridors of the presidential administration to the Supreme Soviet building. People's deputies are actively preparing for the upcoming session, which is scheduled to open on 27 September. The Supreme Soviet's work is being influenced by many factors conditioned by the fundamental changes in the country over the last three months. The main factor is the anticipation of the near-at-hand expiration of the terms of office for people's deputies and subsequent problems connected with the settling of their professional and political careers. In this situation, the behavior of our parliamentarians is not original and fully complies with the well-known scheme developed by their colleagues in our neighboring CIS states.

A rather significant group of people's deputies, who have not soiled themselves by defaming and contradicting the incumbent president, is busily searching for its place in the executive branch (and finding it). Another group, which cannot count on such a place because of its political sympathies and personal relations with the president, is busily occupied with the preparation of a legislative springboard in the form of a favorable electoral law for jumping into the new parliament with little or no cost. The point is primarily in choosing a type of electoral system. People's deputies united in newly created parties are strongly impressed by the proportional system, which allows people to enter parliament in a group, on a party list, thus sparing them difficult direct campaigning, the outcome of which is unpredictable for many current people's deputies.

Finally, one more group of people's deputies, whose names are little known to the general public due to their inactivity and sporadic participation in legislative sessions, is interested simply in staying until the end and receiving, without interruption, their not very large, but stable "legislators allowances" as well as other comforts and benefits. They have no far-reaching aspirations and hopes in their political career (many of them were elected to the Supreme Soviet from the lists of veterans and disabled organizations), but they also do not see any reason to keep their promise and resign before the end of their term in office.

The session is being prepared under just such circumstances. On 21 September, the Supreme Soviet Presidium will discuss the plan of the session—its draft agenda. It is expected that the number one issue will be an anti-crisis program of extraordinary measures in the economy, which is to be presented by the president and which is much spoken about these days.

A scandalous tint will surely be added to the session by the discussion of personnel issues. Those dismissed high officials, who hold deputy seats, will hardly deprive themselves of the pleasure to give the president a parliamentary battle, all the more so since there are, according to the lawyers, certain grounds for it.

It is also planned to submit for discussion a number of draft bills which are urgently needed to activate true reform in the political system. These include laws on the presidency, the Cabinet of Ministers, local self-governments, and political parties. With great personal interest, the deputies will discuss the above-mentioned draft law on legislative elections. In total, there are 55 drafts listed in the agenda proposed for the approval of the Supreme Soviet Presidium on Wednesday. This is an approximate figure and, naturally, it will be changed and specified more than once.

The point of great interest is the date of new elections. Will the Supreme Soviet not be so lacking in dignity and self-esteem as to keep to its promise made to the people and call early elections? Unfortunately, such an outcome is unlikely. It is difficult to organize new elections before the end of this year, if only for technical reasons.

Socialist Party Leader Discusses Goals

WS2609092994 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian 20 Sep 94 p 1

[Interview with Vyachaslaw Kuznyatsow, chairman of the Socialist Party of Belarus, by Yuras Karmanaw; place and date not given: "Vyachaslaw Kuznyatsow: 'The Socialist Party Has Been Created in Empty Place of the Golden Mean'"]

[Text] *An occasion for this interview with Vyachaslaw Kuznyatsow, chairman of the Socialist Party of Belarus [SPB], has been presented by the recent registration of this party, the emergence of which was met with ambiguity by leaders of the left-wing movement.*

[Karmanaw] The Socialist Party had hardly taken shape and the leader of Popular Movement of Belarus [NRB] was already heard saying: "We will unmask these people!" Was it the possibility of a split within the left-wing forces which provoked such emotional reactions?

[Kuznyatsow] It seems that the NRB is having a tough time right now. My advice to them is to overcome their own difficulties first, then clarify the situation with communists and fortify their positions so they can be seen.... While creating our party, we intended to determine the spectrum of leftist forces more precisely. The electorate distrusted many leftists (communists) and centrists during the presidential elections. We took the place vacated by the center-left opposition.

[Karmanaw] Incidentally, this "golden mean" is claimed not by you alone.

[Kuznyatsow] The idea of state socialism, under which the majority of the present population has lived until recently, is close and clear to the people. We advocate the building of a socially oriented society which could allow all segments of society to show their initiative and create the conditions for a highly efficient economy. We promote equal rights for all forms of ownership. Those who have lost their trust in communists and centrist parties, can determine their political [illegible] in the Socialist Party. There were many young people at our constituent congress, which proves that we have a future. There are representatives of different segments of our society among us: collective farmers, teachers, entrepreneurs, and business executives.

[Karmanaw] For instance, Mr. Hryhoryew, deputy head of the SPB organizing committee, who was head of the Vitebsk Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of the Belarusian SSR in his time....

[Kuznyatsow] This is not a proper approach—we have all been brought up by our common history. We have representatives from various oblasts, because we are forming our structures according to the territorial principle, and I do not see anything improper in the fact that Vitebsk Oblast is represented by a man with great working experience. I am the only actually working politician in the SPB organizing committee.

[Karmanaw] Still, you will surely attempt to enter both the parliament and local authority bodies, will you not?

[Kuznyatsow] Yes. In the first place, we will put forward our candidates for parliament. We will try to safeguard our participation in local authority bodies as well. This is asserted in our party statute.

[Karmanaw] Are you not going to join the NRB (which, incidentally, was joined again by the communists) on the eve of elections?

[Kuznyatsow] For the time being—we are not. We are going to participate in the NRB congress and express our opinions there. We do not reject the possibility of cooperation with the NRB, because we understand that quarrels among the left-wing forces are of no benefit to anyone.

Moldova

Justice Ministry Suspends National-Christian Party

LD2309162394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1530 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Kishinev [Chisinau] September 23 TASS—The Moldovan Justice Ministry today suspended for three months the activities of the Moldovan National-Christian Party, which favors unification with Romania, and warned other parties and movements of the need to bring their statutory documents in correspondence with the new Moldovan Constitution.

The fundamental law adopted in August 1994 says that parties and movements opposing Moldovan independence, sovereignty and statehood are recognized as anticonstitutional.

The Moldovan Procurator's Office appealed to the Justice Ministry in early September with a special representation. The document requested to suspend the activities of these organizations. The "black list" includes the Moldovan Congress of Intellectuals, the National-Christian Party and the Christian-Democratic People's Front which stand for unitary Romanian state to include Moldova. In its turn, the International Unity Movement is striving to restore the Soviet empire to involve Moldova, said the Procurator's Office. The statutory documents of the Ecological Party were criticized as well.

The aforesaid parties and movements made statements to say the Moldovan authorities are trying to ruin the opposition on the eve of local elections. Moldovan Parliament

Speaker Petr Luchinskiy noted that the Procurator's Office has done nothing illegal, it just demands fulfilment of the Constitution. In the opinion of Luchinskiy, the parties have the right to appeal against the decision in court, as it is done in democracies.

Parliament Chairman Convenes Fall Session

LD2309142594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1138 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The Moldovan Parliament convened its fall session in Chisinau. Moldovan Parliament Chairman Petr Luchinskiy said that the country's 1995 budget had to be passed, the finance and cash circulation system improved and incentives for privatization, demonopolization and competition adopted.

He said that urgent steps were needed to combat crime and corruption. As few as 35 to 40 percent of the 40,000 crimes committed in Moldova annually are solved. Grave crimes are on the rise, 350 to 400 murders are committed annually. The number of grave crimes increased by over 30 percent in the first eight months of 1994.

Luchinskiy called for increasing efficiency of the prosecutor's office, courts, arbitration and the entire law-enforcement system.

Parliament ratified on Thursday agreements for setting up a free trade zone with Romania, on mutual encouragement and protection of investments with Turkey and Germany, and approved its September-December agenda.

Statistics Show Bank Employees Earn Highest Salaries

AU2309192094 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1930 GMT 21 Sep 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 21/9/1994—Official statistics indicate that according to the average monthly salaries in the first half of 1994, banking institution employees had the first position with an average salary of 257.4 lei; they were followed by financial institution employees (243.5 lei). Employees of the educational sphere had an average salary of 75.1 lei, a salary equal to that of services sector employees (75.7 lei). Agro-industrial complex employees are on the last place (55.7 lei). Sources from the Statistics Department told BASA that the state owed 95 million lei to employees, of which 65 million to employees of the agricultural sector and processing industry. In July, the average monthly salary stood at 111.8 lei ($27.9). Commenting on the disparities between the salaries of farmers and other employees, Vasile Vartic, chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Social Protection, said that statistics do not take into account the payment in kind used by many farms.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Meets Saudi King Fahd

LD2609070394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2203 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Anchikov]

[Text] Abu-Dhabi, 26 Sep—Saudi Arabian King Fahd has met Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, who has arrived on a visit here. After the leaders of the two countries met, an expanded meeting took place attended by the delegations of both sides. Issues of developing bilateral political, economic, and trade cooperation were discussed.

The Kazakhstan president arrived in the Saudi town of Jeddah on Sunday. Agreements on trade and economic cooperation and on opening a direct air link between Saudi Arabia and Kazakhstan are expected to be signed during the visit.

Nazarbayev on Italian Ties, Joint Ventures

LD2309163894 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Excerpts] President Nursultan Nazarbayev said the purpose of his visit to Italy is familiarizing its public and business circles with the political and economic realities of independent Kazakhstan. He met journalists at the Grand Hotel in Rome on Wednesday evening.

We have come here not to beg for credits, but to interest Italians in the possibilities and prospects of mutually beneficial cooperation with our country, stressed Nazarbayev answering questions from ITAR-TASS and KAZTAG correspondents.

The president described the visit as the first official visit to Italy by the head of independent Kazakhstan, which is a member of the United Nations and actively participates in world affairs. Italy was one of the first among the western countries to recognize Kazakhstan in December 1991, said Nazarbayev. At present, Kazakhstan has contacts with 61 foreign states and Italy ranks fifth with regard to the basic indexes of bilateral cooperation. In 1993, the volume of trade with Italy doubled compared to the previous year and reached $80 million. [passage omitted]

Nazarbayev described as successful the contacts with the Italian company AGIP, which is a part of the Eni group. Together with British Gas, the Italian company won the bid for the right to develop the largest Karachaganak gas field that has proved reserves of natural gas totalling one trillion cubic meters. At issue are capital investments in the sum of $6 billion that are to be used within ten years.

There are other more modest examples: the Italian company Kadest is reconstructing the Alma-Ata [Almaty] airport. The company Mordenti is building a plant for manufacturing marble and granite. A shoe factory is to be built soon with the use of Italian technology and local leather. A canned food factory and a fur clothing factory have started operating. Altogether 39 joint Italian-Kazakhstan ventures have been registered in Kazakhstan and ten have started manufacturing goods, noted the president.

A draft tax law has been submitted for consideration by the parliament. Joint ventures, during the first five years after having achieved profit, will not be taxed and the next five years they will pay only 50 percent. Our constitution allows foreign investors to do business and export profit, said Nazarbayev. Land in Kazakhstan is state property, but it can be rented for a period of 99 years with the right to its further purchase and inheritance. [passage omitted]

The world has become multipolar in a post conflict period, continued the president. There are West Europe, America, and the Pacific. Kazakhstan happens to be in the middle and is willing to bring them together. It borders Russia in its northern parts, China in the east, and the extremist [as received] Islamic countries in the south. We want to have equal relations with all our neighbors, but we are against any kind of extremism, stressed the president. [passage omitted]

Tereshchenko, Polish Premier Sign Tax Agreement

LD2309190494 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1530 GMT 21 Sep 94

[Text] On 21 September Polish Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak arrived in Almaty on a short business visit. Kazakh Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko and other officials met him at the airport. The two heads of government made speeches in greeting.

After that the two statesmen and the ministers accompanying them signed an agreement on taxation on each other's goods, a convention that limits the size of taxes imposed on enterprises, accords on investment cooperation and mutual investment protection, and other important documents. Tereshchenko and Pawlak held a news conference for foreign and Kazakh journalists and answered their questions.

Afterwards, the Polish prime minister met parliament chairman Abish Kekilbayev.

In the evening at the House of Friendship, the Polish delegation met members of the Polish [word indistinct] society in Kazakhstan. At the meeting Pawlak spoke about the economic situation in Poland, made a final speech on the results of his visit to Kazakhstan, and answered questions put by those assembled.

On 22 September the Polish delegation is leaving for China.

Legal Proceedings Authorized Against Deputies

LD2309155794 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Excerpts] [No dateline as received] During the parliament's morning plenary session on 22 September, First Deputy Procurator General Konstantinov addressed parliamentarians, requesting the arrest of and institution of court proceedings against Viktor Tislenko, chairman of the East Kazakhstan High Arbitration Court [name and title as received], who has the right to parliamentary immunity. He is being accused of bribe taking and other serious offenses which are liable for criminal prosecution.

Tislenko addressed parliamentarians, answered their questions, and rejected accusations. He said the regional administration exerted pressure on him when examining disputes between state and entrepreneurial structures.

I do not consider myself guilty, the defendant said. If I did, I would have left the republic a while ago. I have no such intention and in principle I am not against investigation, provided it is fair. [passage omitted]

After a two-hour discussion deputies passed a decision to allow criminal proceedings against Tislenko, but without arresting him.

The next presentation by the deputy procurator general contained a request to authorize criminal proceedings against Aleksandr Kobzev, deputy in the previous convocation of the Supreme Soviet, and Sergey Subotin, deputy in the present parliament. They are accused of assisting certain organizations to obtain targeted credits which were misused. It is alleged that they were given Volvo cars for this, which they registered in the name of their wives.

Subotin is outside the republic. According to the preliminary data, he is in Samara, in Russia. Kobzev also addressed the parliamentarians and rejected the accusations. He admitted assisting the relevant companies to obtain targeted credits, but said this is not a criminal matter. However, he did not monitor the use of the credits. With regard to the Volvo car, he said he purchased it with the help of relatives and friends for 1.5 million rubles. The car was registered in the name of his wife because he already had a Lada car which he was planning to sell in order to pay debts.

Ilyasov, who spoke on behalf of the state committee for legal reform, legislation, and law and order said the committee had checked the issue. Since the committee did not yet have a clear view, deputies voted in favor of starting legal proceedings against Kobzev.

With regard to Subotin, the deputies authorized his arrest. It seems likely that a search warrant will be issued in order to find the deputy who has left the republic.

Health Minister Devyatko presented a bill on preventing AIDS. After the bill was examined and amendments made, deputies passed the bill. In the afternoon deputies considered the issue of social protection of invalids.

Nazarbayev Steps Up Fight Against Corruption

LD2309164294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1437 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Akimov]

[Text] Alma-Ata [Almaty] September 23 TASS—Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, it seems, has made the decision to begin an uncompromising campaign against corruption, bribery, and other criminal offences by officials in government and administrative bodies. The KAZTAG news agency today circulated a presidential decree ordering the formation of a special republican commission to combat such crimes.

The commission will be comprised of the secretary of the country's Security Council, the first deputy justice minister, the prosecutor-general, several parliament deputies, and the heads of the parliament's Control Chamber, the State Financial Control Committee, the president's Chief Control Inspectorate, and the National Security Council.

Asked by ITAR-TASS to comment on the decree, Security Council Secretary Bulat Bayekenov noted that, upon the president's initiative, special subdivisions in the prosecutor-general's office, Internal Ministry, and the National Security Council had been formed and were already acting. However, when the subdivisions had uncovered evidence of corruption, they were subjected to rather active pressure from state officials of various levels to hush-hush their findings. That is why the presidential decree stressed detecting acts of corruption among government officials, no matter what post they hold.

In addition, the commission is assigned the task of analysing the current situation and working out measures to eliminate the causes and conditions which lead to particularly dangerous crimes by officials in government and administrative bodies. The most important elements of the commission's work will be not only ensuring that punishments meted out to guilty officials are not subject to reversal, but also defending those who have been unjustly exposed to any kind of pressure or public defamation.

The commission's other main goal is to coordinate the work of the republican and local governing and administrative bodies with that of the special subdivisions battling corruption and organised crime.

The commission is to report on its work to the president and the parliament every three months.

Paper Urges End to State Benefits for Industry

Almaty PANORAMA in Russian 10 Sep 94 p 3

[Report by Dmitriy Madigozhin: "Massive Financial Support for Loss-making Producers Impedes Creation of New Industrial Structures"]

[Text] Some experts are criticizing the new draft tax code for its lack of privileges for producers. This fact shows that a pretty oversimplified idea of methods of market regulations by the state is still prevalent in public opinion. The idea of privileges is based on a simple logic: The more funds are channeled into a sector, the more material valuables are produced in it. This mechanism partly worked during the socialist period, but even then all was not well with investments, for instance in agriculture. However, the practice of granting constant subsidies and tax and credit privileges to commodity producers last year did not stop the slump in production. How can this be explained?

The fact that production is falling while subsidies are increasing can mean only one thing: Production in Kazakhstan is making an overall loss. Only a small number of enterprises, which receive subsidies in some form, are making a profit. But these have not been singled out by a mechanism that grants privileges to industrial sectors en masse. Most enterprises that are given additional resources simply hurry to spend them and then rapidly find themselves without working capital once again. Losses last year and in the first half of this year were disguised by inflation, and as a consequence of this the accountants described it as a profit even though revenue was insufficient to cover the expenditure needed for a new cycle of production. In other words, a loss-making enterprise expends more material resources and human labor than it produces new material valuables. It follows that such an enterprise is a consumer rather than a producer of resources. Subsidizing a consumer leads only to a rise in consumer demand. In the conditions of Kazakhstan's "broken-up" economy, where most commodities and materials are being imported, rising demand on the internal market does not act as an incentive to a domestic producer. It becomes very profitable to import instead, and a significant proportion of capital is being channeled into trading. Every time the state increases the scale on which funds are redistributed within the economy in some way, the profits made by importers of cars, alcoholic drink, and cash-dollars grow. The volume of industrial production, however, is falling steadily once monthly fluctuations are taken out of the equation.

Thus, any help for loss-making producers—which are currently in the majority—will have the same effect as a simple increase in consumption spending effected through greater budget expenditure. Stimulating consumption makes the trade in imported goods a much more profitable business than production. As a result, businessmen striving for maximum profits are putting off their decision to invest funds in industry.

I had an opportunity to observe the decision-making process at a large private trading enterprise; what was involved was the acquisition of industrial facilities for producing goods for export. At the beginning of August the enterprise's stocks built up sufficient goods for a month's worth of trading. This had never happened before—previously goods were sold very quickly. The enterprise lowered its retail prices in order to speed up turnover, and began preparations for acquiring industrial facilities, which it planned to fund by cutting into the apparently surplus working capital of its trading activities. The calculations showed that the planned reduction in the profitability of trading makes some industrial plants more lucrative than commercial ones, despite the large initial outgoings incurred in the production sector. No doubt the National Bank's tough fiscal policy, which has reduced consumer demand, has played a leading part in such changes.

However, in the second half of August there was a sharp rise in sales, and all the stock-in-trade was sold. This meant that there was no "dead" surplus working capital any more—it was all hard at work bringing in a good monthly profit. In those conditions withdrawing money from turnover would have meant losing a guaranteed profit in order to invest in a new project, something that is always a risk. As a result, the management of the trading enterprise postponed its investments in production indefinitely and broke off its negotiations on acquiring industrial facilities.

The rising sales of trading companies in recent weeks, as well as the rise of the cash dollar against the local currency, show that the government's earlier plans to subsidize agriculture for the harvest period are now beginning to be implemented. Thus, massive financial support for the old producers is still impeding the appearance of new industrial structures in the market.

Therefore, in addition to the tough fiscal and credit policies for which the National Bank is responsible, at the current stage all the tax, credit, and other privileges need to be annulled, a move that would have a macroeconomic effect. Privileges could be granted to a few categories of producers only, by way of social protection. It is the market, not the government or the Supreme Council, which must show which enterprises are economically effective.

Kyrgyzstan

Edict Announces 22 Oct Elections

LD2509164594 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Edict by President Askar Akayev; date, place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. Elections of deputies to the primary-level local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic are to be held on Saturday 22 October 1994.

2. The Central Election Commission on the referendum and elections is to ensure that the elections are held in line with the regulations on elections of deputies to primary-level local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by an edict of the Kyrgyz Republic president on 22 September 1994.

3. The government of the Kyrgyz Republic and heads of the local state administrations are to deal with matters relating to the provision of technical and financial back-up for the elections to local councils, on the recommendation of the Central Election Commission and territorial election commissions.

4. The Central Election Commission and the Commission on Local Government Reform in the Kyrgyz Republic are asked to organize methods of making people in the republic aware of the aims and objectives of local government reform, as well as of procedure for holding elections to primary-level local councils.

[Signed] Askar Akayev, president of the Kyrgyz Republic

Referendum on Constitutional Amendments Confirmed

LD2509165594 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Edict by President Askar Akayev; date, place not give—read by announcer]

[Text] Edict by the president of the Kyrgyz Republic on a nationwide referendum on amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic:

In view of the fact that a nationwide ballot is the supreme and most direct way in which the people of Kyrgyzstan can express their authority; and with the aim of bolstering the foundations of the Kyrgyz Republic's constitutional system, to improve the operation of the legislature, and to ensure that fuller account is taken of national-level and local interests in the republic's supreme representative body; and in line with Article 1, Paragraph 5 and Article 46, Paragraph 5, Item 2 of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, I decree:

1. A nationwide referendum on amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic is to be held on Saturday 22 October 1994.

2. Two constitutional amendments are to be put to the vote in the referendum:

Do you agree that the following clauses should be incorporated into Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 1 (The Kyrgyz Republic) of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic:

i. "Amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and to laws of the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as other important problems of state life, may be put to a referendum?" Yes/No.

ii. "Legislative authority in the Kyrgyz Republic is carried out by the Zhogorku Kenesh [Supreme Council] consisting of two chambers—the Legislative Assembly [zakonodatelnoye sobraniye] with 35 deputies, a standing body elected to represent the interests of the republic's entire population; and the Assembly of People's Representatives [sobraniye narodnykh predstaviteley] with 70 deputies, which works in sessions and is elected to represent territorial interests." Yes/No.

3. In conformity with the democratic practice for holding referendums, the present referendum will be deemed valid if over 50 percent of the registered electorate participate in it. An issue put to the referendum will be deemed to have been passed if over 50 percent of voters participating in the ballot voted in favor of it.

4. In line with the results of the referendum, the Zhogorku Kenesh will make the relevant amendments and additions will be made to Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8, and incorporate editorial revisions into the text of Chapter 1, of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic.

5. The Central Election Commission on the Referendum and Elections in the Kyrgyz Republic is to approve the format and text of the referendum ballot-paper and define the time-scale for each stage in the referendum's organization no later than 30 September 1994.

6. The government of the Kyrgyz Republic is asked to deal with matters of technical and financial back-up for the referendum, on the recommendations of the Central Election Commission on the Referendum and Elections.

[Signed] Askar Akayev, president of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Akayev Meets With Muslim, Orthodox Leaders

LD2309181094 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 21 Sep 94

[Text] The revival and strengthening of spiritual and moral principles in man and society formed the topic of discussion at a meeting between President Askar Akayev and priests of the Muslim and Orthodox confessions in Kyrgyzstan held in Akayev's office on 20 September. The meeting was attended by Kimsanbay Hadzhi, chairman of the republic's Muslim Spiritual Board; Father Vladimir, dean of the Orthodox Church in Kyrgyzstan; Mohammad Zelikhayev, deputy chairman of the Muslim Spiritual Board; Duyshenbek Hadzhi, the Spiritual Board's executive secretary; Akibay oulu Erkin, trustee of the mosque in Bishkek; Father Valentin, senior priest at Bishkek's Cathedral of the Resurrection; Father Pavel, dean of Bishkek; and Father Andrey, secretary to the head of the Orthodox Church.

In the course of his meeting with the religious figures, the president stated that the members of the two leading confessions in the republic, the Muslim and Orthodox, had always lived in friendship. They have done a great deal to safeguard peace and accord among people of different ethnic groups and religious beliefs. Today many countries are turning to religion for help in restoring moral and ethical ideals in society. Religion is truly a major force for educating people in honesty, decency, and respect for others. We are grateful that you help people to be kinder and more tolerant of one another, and to live in harmony and mutual understanding.

Akayev said we believe we are doing the right thing in helping the religious confessions to stand on their own two feet. During our previous meeting, we promised we would help new religious buildings—mosques and churches—to be built in Bishkek. A little money came into the presidential fund today, and we would like to redeem our promise.

The president gave Father Vladimir and Kimsanbay Hadzhi $7,500 each to erect religious buildings. As they accepted the presidential gift, the clergymen both expressed their heartfelt thanks on behalf of all Muslims and Orthodox Christians in the republic. They gave assurances that these religious communities had supported and would continue to support the president and his policy of bolstering civic peace and inter-ethnic accord in Kyrgyzstan, and of advancing democratic change. They expressed their wish for the republic's new full-time parliament to contain a wide range of people of different ethnic groups and confessions, and said the main factor in electing people's deputies should be their talent, honesty, decency, and intention to serve the people.

The head of the presidential administration, State Secretary Rustembekov, attended the meeting.

Government on Joint Stock Companies

LD2309113094 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 2300 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Text] With a view to deepening privatization in joint stock companies, the republican state committee for state property has drafted a stage-by-stage privatization plan. In order to create a competitive environment in dismantling wholesale facilities and implement the state committee for state property's methods and principles, the government has issued instructions for the implementation of the plan for stage-by-stage privatization of wholesale facilities: the joint stock company Osh Dum Tolga, the joint stock company Myaso-Mal in Osh, and the joint stock company Issuk-Kul PPP in Balykchi. Pilot auctions will be held in these towns to sell facilities of these joint stock companies. Starting prices will be set on the basis of their residual cost on 1 January 1994. The state committee for state property is charged with the task of monitoring the implementation of this plan.

Officials, Canadian Company View Mining Project

LD2309134194 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 2300 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Text] Kumtor Company President Yan Khomeynuk, Vice President [name indistinct], and Mels Davletov, director general of the Kumtor Gold joint venture, met with Issuk-Kul regional and Karakol city administrations. The sides discussed issues related to the involvement of local businesses in constructing a Kumtor gold mining combine. In particular, they considered the issue of constructing housing in the regional center for the staff of the Kumtor operation company and a dormitory on a highway through the Barstoy pass. They also discussed the issue of the speedy construction of the future employee training center and those involved in prospecting for mineral resources. The Canadians highly assessed the Issuk-Kul and Karakol administrations' business interest in the Kumtor plan and assured them that all the issues raised will be thoroughly examined and solved.

Exodus of Russian Migrants Decreases

MM2609100994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Sep 94 First Edition p 6

[Report by Vladimir Berezovskiy: "Flow of Refugees Slows"]

[Text] Bishkek—The first signs of a drop in the migration of the Russian-speaking population have been noted. Whereas in the first half of last year 104,800 of them left Kirghizia [Kyrgyzstan], this year the figure is 26,000 fewer.

Sociologists note that people no longer believe that life will be better in Russia and the other CIS countries, and, instead of packing their bags, are starting to adapt to the new conditions. Russians have also been given hope by President Askar Akayev's recent edict "On Measures To Regulate Migration Processes." He promises fairer representation for them and other ethnic minorities in organs of power, real bilingualism, a beefing up of the criminal penalties for everyday discrimination, free access to higher education, and the creation of Russian-Kirghiz joint ventures based on former Union plants.

Tajikistan

Supreme Council Edict on Social, Economic Measures

LD2609101694 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0800 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan has issued an edict on creating working groups for implementing the edict of the Presidium of the Tajik Supreme Council on immediate measures to prevent the undertakings in the social and economic spheres of the republic.

Aimed at the efficient implementation of the edict of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan on 22 September 1994 on immediate measures to prevent the undertakings in the social and economic spheres of the republic, the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan decrees:

1. Creation of the following working groups:

A. The working group on the Gornyy Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast. The head of the group will be Abdujalil Samadov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic;

B. The working group on the city of Dushanbe and the towns and rayons under the republican jurisdiction. The head of the group will be Khujiahmad Khidiraliyev, deputy chairman of the Supreme Council of the republic;

C. The working group on Khatlon Oblast. The head of the group will be Jura] Shokirov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic.

2. The working groups are to submit reports on their activities on implementation of this edict to the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan by 25 October 1994.

3. The State Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan for Radio and Television and the mass media are to give extensive coverage to the progress of the implementation of the edict issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan on 22 September 1994 on immediate measures to prevent the undertakings of the social and economic spheres of the republic and the activities of the working groups on implementation of the above mentioned edict.

[Signed] Emomali Rahmonov, the chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Rakhmonov To Give UN Speech 30 Sep

LD2609091394 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0800 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] The 49th session of the United Nations General Assembly will be opened today.

It is thought that Emomali Rakhmonov, the head of state and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan, will pay a visit to New York today to attend this session.

According to the report of the plenipotentiary representative of UNESCO in Tajikistan, Emomali Rakhmonov, the head of state of Tajikistan, will deliver a speech at this session on 30 September. Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation, will deliver a speech at the 49th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Foreign Minister Olimov Meets UN Official

LD2509140294 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Excerpt] Zafar Saidov, head of the information department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, told a correspondent of the KHOVAR that Foreign Minister Rashid Olimov, who is currently in New York to attend the 49th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization, met Perez, the deputy executive director of the World Food Program.

During the meeting, the Tajik side brought up the extremely difficult situation of providing the population in remote districts of the republic with food and other necessary commodities.

Perez said the World Food Program is aware of the republic's difficulties in this field. He is going to appeal to the member- states of the World Food Program to render emergency humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan in winter. [passage omitted]

UN Observers To Arrive for Presidential Election

LD2409121794 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] According to a promise made by a UN representative, 150 UN observers will arrive in Tajikistan next week. The aim of the UN observers' visit is to familiarize themselves with the political situation in Tajikistan, especially the course of preparations for the referendum on the Constitution and the presidential election.

Government Issues Decree on Military Duty

LD2309181494 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 0400 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Text] In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on Universal Military Duty and Military Service, the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan has issued a resolution:

Servicemen who have completed their fixed term of active service should be transferred to the reserve from the Armed Forces, Border Troops, and Interior Ministry troops of the Republic of Tajikistan in November-December 1994.

Male citizens who have reached the age of 18 by the call-up date and who do not have the right to defer their call-up, as well as citizens in the older call-up categories who have lost the right to defer their call-up, are to be called up for active military service in the Armed Forces, Border Troops, and Interior Ministry troops of the Republic of Tajikistan, and in the Russian Border Troops deployed in the Republic of Tajikistan, in November-December 1994.

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan, ministries, government departments, and the local bodies of state power and government are to draft and put into effect specific measures to implement this decree.

Turkmenistan

Parliamentary Elections To Be Held 11 Dec

LD2509162294 Ashgabat Radio Ashgabat Network in Russian 0200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The central commission for holding elections in accordance with Paragraph 6 of Article 14 of the law of Turkmenistan on the elections of the deputies of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan, decrees: Elections of deputies of Turkmenistan must be held on 11 December 1994 from 0800 until 1800. Orazov, chairman of the commission.

Parliament Approves Budget for 1995

LD2309162894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1336 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Parliament in Ashkhabad [Ashgabat] has approved an almost deficit- free budget for 1995 setting revenue and expenditure at 63.832 billion manats ($ 6.38 billion at the central bank's fixed rate) and 63.162 billion manats ($6.31 billion) respectively.

The bulk of revenues is to be derived at the cost of VAT (25.251 billion manats or $2.5 billion), mineral resources tax (15.299 billion manats or $1.5 billion) and profit tax (10.590 billion manats or $ 1 billion).

Government spending on the national economy, science and culture, defense and repayment of foreign debt is set at 31.15 billion manats ($3.1 billion), 9.311 billion manats ($931 million), 4.588 billion manats ($538 million) and 5.4 billion manats ($504 million) respectively.

This year's budget was rejected by parliament because it was estimated in Russian rubles rather than the local currency and the government had to resort to quarterly budgets of its own instead.

The deputies also approved a government-proposed privatization plan which provides for the privatization of some 5,500 state enterprises in the first stage covering 1994-1996, mostly catering, services and consumer-producing plants.

Larger enterprises, construction and transport facilities are to be privatized in the second stage.

The parliament also approved a range of new top awards including the order of Turkmenbashi (Turkmen leader) to be awarded for gallantry in action.

Some Natural Gas Exports Suspended

LD2309162794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1336 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Turkmen natural gas supplies to Ukraine and Transcaucasia—Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan—will be suspended today due to the breakdown of the compressor plant in Tuleya (the Karakalpak Republic inside Uzbekistan), the Petroleum Information Agency was told by the Russian joint stock company Gazprom. The source said the suspension of supplies many last for two days.

Gas is pumped to Ukraine and Transcaucasia through Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Russia after being extracted in southeast Turkmenistan.

The source said that Russia does not intend to compensate Kiev for Turkmen gas not received as a result of the accident or to resume the supplies of gas to Ukraine. Gas supplies to Mariupol, Kharkov and Kiev have been reduced recently.

According to September 1 statistics, Ukraine has received about 9.1 billion cubic meters of gas from Turkmenistan this year.

Government Support for Private Sector Promised

LD2309185594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1532 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovsky; Edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] President Saparmurad Niyazov has promised every form of government support to the "emergent class of property owners."

Niyazov told a group of Turkmen businessmen in Ashkhabad [Ashgabat] on Thursday that the republic's leadership planned to provide loans for private Turkmen businesses and create legislation to stimulate them to step up production for both the domestic and foreign markets.

The president insisted that banks should primarily give credits to manufacturing and service-providing private firms. To date such credits account for only 25 percent of the total amount of 750 million manats ($10 million at the current commercial exchange rate) received by the private sector.

Niyazov urged Turkmenistan's business community to concentrate on the production and processing of agricultural produce, promising to hand over most of the mini-flour mill equipment to be bought from Germany to private firms.

IF Note: There are some 15,000 private enterprises in the republic today having a total work force of about 100,000, according to the Turkmen government. This year they have produced more than 2 billion manats' worth of goods and paid the state about 300 million manats as tax.

Russian-Language Weekly Ceases Publication

MM2609124994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 94 p 8

[POSTFAKTUM report: "Turkmenia's Most Popular Russian Language Newspaper Has Ceased To Appear"]

[Text] The Russian language weekly SUBBOTA [Saturday], which regularly runs items given over to the defense of human rights, criticism of various Turkmen departments, and the problems of the republic economy, and the only local newspaper not to have published a photograph of President Niyazov, has ceased to appear in Turkmenia [Turkmenistan].

SUBBOTA is a weekly supplement to the daily republican newspaper TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA—it has what is for Turkmenia a sizable print-run (over 31,000 copies), and it is the only profitable publication in the republic.

The newspaper's editorial office explained that the official reason is that the republic Press House has stopped selling newsprint and print forms to the newspaper claiming not to have any, but, according to information from journalists, a large batch of newsprint arrived in the republic a few days ago.

It has been learned from informed sources that the order not to publish the newspaper made its way to the Press House from the republic government.

Armenia

Explosion in Uzbek Pipeline Cuts Gas Supply

LD2609092594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0844 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 26 Sep—Fuel is rationed once again for Armenia—the supply of Turkmen gas has stopped completely. The press service of the Armenian Government told the ITAR-TASS correspondent that the reason for this was an accident at the pipeline in Uzbekistan along which gas from Turkmenistan is carried to Russia and the Caucasus. According to some information, the gas supply is not being restored along the reserve pipeline because of the debt owed by Turkmenistan to Uzbekistan for carrying gas through the territory of this republic. At present, talks are underway on resuming the gas supply to Armenia where electricity output has fallen by one-third.

Commission Rejects Confederation With Russia

LD2609105794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0926 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan September 26 TASS—The Armenian Central Referendum Commission has turned down the idea of holding a popular referendum on the question of whether or not to join in a confederation with Russia. The proposal for such a referendum had been submitted by the republic's Communist Party.

ITAR-TASS was told by the Armenian parliament's press center that the permanent commissions on independent statehood and legislation had given negative conclusions on the communists' suggestion. The authorities have refused to allow the Communist Party to register an initiative group to run a signature-collecting campaign in support of a referendum by civil initiative. The refusal was justified on the grounds that Armenian legislation has no provision for deciding questions of the republic's state system by referendum.

Speaking in Yerevan on the eve of a trip to New York, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan reported that he intends to support a legislative initiative to propose an amendment to the referendum law. According to the president, the amendment is necessary in order to prevent the "restoration of the Soviet Union in that way, which would threaten Armenia with the loss of its independence".

He said that, in his opinion, "the Armenian people cannot be tempted by the notorious ghost which is roaming Europe, since in Armenia, unlike in other countries, that ghost has not a social content, but an exclusively anti-national content aimed against the independence" of the republic. According to the president, amending the referendum law would strengthen the Armenian state, which is the most sacred task for the Armenian people at present. Ter-Petrosyan expressed assurance that national forces would rise above their internal disagreements and support that legislative initiative.

President Departs for UN General Assembly

LD2409142994 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Today, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan left for New York where he will take part in the 49th session of the UN General Assembly. He is also scheduled to meet UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, as well as heads of government and heads of state of several countries. On 28 September, the Armenian president will address the participants in the General Assembly. Levon Ter-Petrosyan will make a brief stopover in Paris on his way to New York.

Kazimirov on Progress of Negotiations

NC2309121594 Yerevan SNARK in English 1120 GMT 23 Sep 94

["Exclusive" interview with Russian presidential envoy Vladimir Kazimirov by an unidentified SNARK correspondent in Yerevan during Kazimirov's two-day visit to Armenia]

[Text] Yerevan, September 22 (SNARK)—During two days the Russian president's envoy was in Yerevan. He made exclusive remarks to our correspondent before leaving for Baku.

Q. The third round of Armenian-Azeri negotiations in Moscow has ended. Parties are making optimistic statements, however there is no real progress. What is the stumble block?

A. Actually we are making progress, though slower than we wished to. But on the other hand, I address a rhetoric question to opponents, what did you expect? There won't be any easy moves in this conflict. The parties have not yet developed in themselves the ability of mutual compromise. If not maximalist then overstated positions are being pursued. The positions which cannot serve a basis of agreement. As a result, a new round of tension may follow, both military and political.

Q. Lately an agreement with Western oil companies has been signed in Baku. Do you think this event may play any role in settlement of the conflict?

A. I think this factor should act to positive. Simply because political stability is required to initiate an important venture. I believe that the people related with this oil interests should logically give impacts to stabilization in the region.

Q. Is there any rivalry among the mediators in settlement of Karabakh problem?

A. It has become almost a norm, when we Russia undertake any important steps to settle the Karabakh problem, the CSCE' Minsk group appoints its sessions on this very date. This has a two-fold aim: should I attend these sessions we have to curtail our Russian mediative efforts, on the other hand, if we don't arrive we are immediately blamed of unwillingness to cooperate. Such was the case for example last time, in September, when leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan met in Moscow. At first we reacted correctly. However when the situation repeated, we made it clear that such practice cannot be continued. We were compelled to do that, and very soon set forth this issue in Prague: either there will be order in the Minsk group's schedule, or we would have to state the matter in a more general form.

When the truce document on Karabakh was signed in May we agreed that it should include a statement that the treaty is concluded under mediation of Russia and CSCE, though it was clear who was the principal mediator. But suddenly Jan Eliasson read out the text where CSCE stood first. Why should such small tricks be used? Russia earlier than others and more acutely perceives this conflict. One should also keep in mind the direct damage that Russia suffers from the conflict. We took up the mediatory role when all parties directly applied us. So now imagine that we would it give up, how would many issues appear then?

We are not in position to cease the direct mediatory efforts of Russian Federation and do not consider them as incompatible with our activity in CSCE. Moreover because the basal CSCE document, dated May 24, 1992, welcomes the immediate and complementary efforts of CIS states. There is no provision in this resolution that eliminates any individual mediation. The only phase named there as general is the Minsk conference. Actually we have no disagreements with the Minsk group. We have them only with some members of the Minsk group, truly with influential ones. It should be also remembered that certain realities in the region are more clear to Russia. How, for example, should the problem of refugees or territory liberation be solved in the absence of cease-fire? From this very position we tried to persuade the Minsk group (and not always successfully) that cease-fire and end of combats should be given priority. Only at the end of last year, and early this year the Minsk group has accepted our approach. There were so many condescending words. But we indeed started with a three-day truce, we were consequent [as received].

Also the issue of conflicting parties number. Right from the start I wrote to my American counterpart Maresca that three parties are involved. We initially stated this matter realistically. Now, who was the first to speak about disjoining forces? Again Russia.

Q. Would Russia agree if, say, Turkish forces were included in these peacemaking forces?

A. No country's troops may be deployed in the conflict area if any of conflicting parties has objections.

Turning to mediators' role I would like to note that geopolitical interests were sometimes put higher than the conflict settlement interests.

Q. Do you think the conclusion of Big Political Agreement would be possible this year ?

A. From viewpoint of objective grounds, I am sure it would, but will these objective possibilities be realized?

Q. What is the present state of matter?

A. One may consider the cease-fire as half-attained, though it is not sufficiently firm. But we have no cessation of hostilities yet. End of military activity, plus provision of some mechanism that would eliminate its resumption, this is the very first component of the Agreement at which we are working now.

Q. When will the talks resume in Moscow?

A. The terms are being agreed during my present mission. Both presidents are planning to attend the UN cession in New York. Maybe we shall do it upon their return.

Deployment of UN Force in Karabakh 'Best Solution'

NC2309132794 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 1021 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Stepanakert ("Yerkir" daily - Haylur), 09/23/94—Special Envoy of the Russian President Vladimir Kazimirov, who has currently visited the zone of the Karabakh conflict, declared that the best solution would probably be to station the UN Security Council disengagement forces in the region.

Kazimirov also said that trilateral negotiations on resolution of the Karabakh conflict will restart in Moscow by the end of the week.

IMF Official Presents Conditions for Financial Aid

NC2409121294 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0733 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Yerevan ("Azg" daily), 09/24/94—During the meeting with RA [Republic of Armenia] Prime-Minister Grant Bagratyan, Chairman of the International Monetary Fund's Second European Department John Olding-Ami declared that Armenia will receive financial aid, if three conditions are satisfied.

Conditions are the following: establishing peace in the region, presence of a program on economic reconstruction and development and support to balance the payments not only by IMF but also by the International Community.

John Olding-Ami also stressed that Armenia had significant achievements in stabilization of the dram rate this year. IMF representative believes that liberation of bread prices and stopping governmental subsidies on bread production may help to eliminate state budget deficiency. He noted that, at the same time, financial supplements should be rendered to the most vulnerable and socially insecure layers of the population.

"Thus, you would avoid political struggle that rises every time with an increase in bread prices," he said. Otherwise, if the prices continue being established by the government, bread will be illegally exported to Georgia, where liberation has already been announced, and probably even to Azerbaijan, where the problems on increasing bread prices are being discussed.

Rubber Plant's Restart Welcomed Despite Pollution

MM2309153094 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Sep 94 p 3

[Report by Valeriy Aydinyan under the "Near Abroad" rubric: "Cost of Clean Air"]

[Excerpt] Yerevan—[passage omitted] In the past the Armenian Nuclear Electric Power Station and the "Nairit" Science and Production Association were proclaimed the chief threat to the people's very existence. Now the fate of the republic's economy depends on their startup. At present the nuclear station is being intensively prepared for demothballing, and "Nairit" has started producing its chief output—synthetic rubber—for the first time in recent years. This has been achieved thanks to close cooperation with Russia, which has set aside credit of 2 billion rubles for a targeted order. This money has been used to purchase 1,400 tons of butadiene. All the rubber obtained will be sent to Russia at prices close to world prices. Specialists maintain that the deal is mutually advantageous. But its significance for Armenia can hardly be overestimated: Hundreds of people will get work, and "Nairit's" recommissioning will revive other enterprises in the chemical complex which are closely linked with it.

A new method of obtaining rubber from natural gas is now ready to be introduced—which will make it possible to avoid costly and dangerous transportation of toxic butadiene.

Armenia is not rich in natural resources, and the commodities in production cannot stand up to competition on the world market. But the chemical industry's output can carve a path into the markets of developed countries which can already afford the luxury of curtailing harmful production processes. So for the time being it will be necessary to wait for clean air.

Azerbaijan

Consortium Plans To Develop Oil, Gas Fields

NC2409105294 Baku TURAN in English 1251 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Baku (September 23) TURAN—In accordance with recently signed protocol on intentions, "BP", "Turkiya petrolleri" and SOCAR will create the consortium concerning joint development of Azeri oil-gas field, "Shakhdeniz".

As SOCAR told TURAN agency, "Shakhdeniz" oil-field is situated to the south-west of Apsheron peninsula in the Azeri section of Caspian sea. The total square of "Shakhdeniz" oil-field is more than square of "Chirag" or "Guneshli" oil-fields.

The same source also reports that within the years from 1985 to 1988 three wells 5.5 and 8.5 meters deep have been drilled on this perspective territory.

According to specialists, this oil-field is mostly a gas-bearing one. Due to the crisis, which enveloped Azeri oil industry, geologic-research works on this oil-fields have been suspended.

Turkish President Demirel on Oil Deal

NC2309202194 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] President of the Turkish Republic Suleyman Demirel has sent a cable to Azerbaijan's President Geydar Aliyev. The cable says:

President of Azerbaijani Republic Geydar Aliyev, my dear friend: We were greatly pleased with the signing of the oil agreement in Baku on 20 September 1994 following prolonged talks with the international consortium. This agreement, which will serve in the revival of your country, will ensure a speedy rise in the living standards of our Azerbaijani brothers. Alongside the gaining of independence by the sovereign states, the attainment of economic development is also extremely important in our contemporary world. As such, the oil agreement should be viewed as a magnificent foundation for hope in the future.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I reiterate that the Turkish Republic and people have always defended their Azerbaijani brothers and are resolved to continue doing so. And I personally, and in the name of the Turkish people, wish peace, health, and happiness to your excellency and the fraternal Azerbaijani people.

'Scandal' Surrounding Caspian Oil Contract Continues

LD2309191894 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] [Unidentified announcer] The scandal continues around the contract between Azerbaijan and a number of international oil companies, which was signed in Baku this week. Let me remind you, what is involved here is the joint development of the Caspian oil shelf of the Azerbaijani coast. The Russian Foreign Ministry is still adopting the most intransigent positions as regards this document.

According to Grigoriy Karasin, the spokesman of the Russian foreign policy department, in order to sign such an agreement, a decision by the Russian Government is necessary in the form of a resolution or instruction. The draft would normally be agreed with the Foreign Ministry.

[Karasin] "We do not have any documents giving evidence that such a government decision does exist. Accordingly, the Foreign Ministry has not given the authority to sign this agreement."

[Announcer] According to Fuad Akhundov, press secretary to the Azerbaijani president, the position of the Russian

Foreign Ministry arouses surprise. In his words, on the day when they received the Moscow statement he immediately got in touch with Karasin.

[Akhundov] "On the same day, 20...[sentence incomplete] I telephoned him and he gave his comments. At that moment the Russian Ambassador Valter Shoniya was in the room. When Shoniya was asked what he thought about the statement, he said the Russian Government would support the contract. The question arises, how could two representatives of Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev say opposite things?

Russia has a full share in it. For example, the Russian share is about 10 times more than the Turkish one. Turkey has one or two percent and Russia has 10 percent."

[Announcer] Talking about the Russian share in the agreement, Akhundov meant Lukoil, a Russian oil concern. This company, together with seven other foreign oil concerns, signed the Baku agreement. The company's official representative Aleksandr Vasilenko has no doubt of the legality of Lukoil's actions.

[Vasilenko] "On 19 September 1993 an agreement was signed between the Lukoil oil company and the Azerbaijani oil company. On 20 October 1993 an intergovernment agreement was signed between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Cabinet of Ministers of Russia. Under the agreement of 20 October, the Lukoil oil company was charged with development, with holding negotiations on behalf of Russia. This is first. Second, Azerbaijan guaranteed Lukoil 10 percent of the participation in the consortium. This is the framework of the intergovernment agreement. During the last year Lukoil never breached the framework of the intergovernment agreement."

Aliyev Fires National Security Minister

NC2309145094 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Decree issued by Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev in Baku on 22 September]

[Text] Taking into consideration serious shortcomings and dereliction of duty on the part of National Security Minister of the Azerbaijan Republic Nariman Shami ogly Imranov in the running of the National Security Ministry, and guided by the Azerbaijani law on additional measures for the stabilization of the Republic's economic and socio-political life, I hereby decide to relieve Nariman Shami ogly Imranov from his post of National Security Minister of the Azerbaijan Republic.

[Signed] Geydar Aliyev, President of the Azerbaijan Republic
[Dated] Baku, 22 September 1994

Further on Dismissal

LD2309182194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1532 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 185 (675) for 23 September; compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] President Geydar Aliyev speaking on national television on Thursday said the dismissal of National Security Minister Nariman Imranov follows an escape from a top security prison in Baku by former Defense Chief Ragim Gaziyev and three other prisoners late on Thursday.

Indicating that the escape was arranged by a prison warden of the national security ministry, Aliyev described the incident as an unprecedented crime ever committed by the security services. He qualified it as a crime spearheaded against the country's independence.

Aliyev blamed the enemies within and without for engineering the escape of the four prisoners facing charges of surrendering the Azeri cities of Shusha and Lachin to Armenian forces in May 1992.

The president accused Gaziyev of demoralizing the army and damaging the country's defence capability while in office.

He said that the escape should take place one day after Baku struck a major oil deal with a consortium of western companies was not coincidental.

"In my view, the incident must also been seen as an attempt by certain forces inside and outside the country to try to derail the oil contract by unsettling the situation in Azerbaijan," Aliyev said.

He expressed confidence that the enemies of Azerbaijan will fail to do so and Baku will go ahead with the contracts regardless.

"No one will be able to unsettle the situation in Azerbaijan or its march on the road of independence", said the Azeri leader.

First Deputy National Security Minister Namig Abbasov has been appointed as acting minister to replace Imranov, according to information made available to Interfax.

Namik Rashit Named Acting Minister

NC2309145494 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Decree issued by President Geydar Aliyev in Baku on 22 September]

[Text] Herewith the execution of the duties of National Security Minister of the Azerbaijan Republic has been provisionally transferred to First Deputy National Security Minister of the Azerbaijan Republic Namik Rashit ogly Abbasov.

[Signed] Geydar Aliyev, president of Azerbaijan Republic
[Dated] Baku, 22 September 1994

Aliyev Appoints New UN Permanent Representative

NC2309174094 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] With a decree from the Azerbaijani president, Eldar Gulam ogly Guliyev has been appointed the Republic's permanent representative to the UN headquarters in New York and designated ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic.

With a decree from the Azerbaijani president, Lala Shovket Gadzhiyeva has been relieved of her post of permanent representative of the Republic at UN headquarters because of her transfer to another job.

Islamic Development Bank Offers First Credits

LD2309163294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1336 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The Islamic Development Bank, Saudi Arabia, will offer Azerbaijan the first non-interest credit worth $9.8 million to finance the construction of the Mil-Mugan collector (of the 174 kilometer system for irrigating arid lands of the republic's southeastern zone).

The Financial Information Agency learned that the bilateral credit agreement was signed on September 21 in Baku by the Bank's president and the Azerbaijani finance minister. The document says that the money will be set aside for 25 years.

After the agreement is ratified by the republic's parliament, a tender will presumably be announced for the right to implement the project estimated at $17 million. The Azerbaijani government pledged to set aside $7 million to finance the construction.

The spokesman for the Azeri Economics Ministry Adyl Zeinalov told the Financial Information Agency that earlier the Islamic Development Bank offered gratis to Azerbaijan over $1 million to develop some economic projects. For example, $240,000 was channeled for the construction of the Kazi—Magomed—Alyaty highway, $280,000 for the reconstruction of the Samur—Apsheron canal, $230,000 for the construction of the Khurdalan babyfood factory.

Georgia

Shevardnadze on S. Ossetia Peacekeeping

LD2409160594 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1007 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] A settlement of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict fully depends on the implementation of provisions of the Dagomys Agreement, Eduard Shevardnadze said at the Georgian Supreme Council session. Speaking on the results of the Novyy Afon and Sochi meetings, he said that the parties had assessed the process of the settlement as unsatisfactorily slow and expressed a willingness to revitalize activities of the peacekeeping forces who "contributed to a stability, although temporary, in the region." "We have agreed to urgently resume activities of the Control Commission and to promote a dynamic character to the process," said Eduard Shevardnadze.

Shevardnadze on Abkhazia Policy

LD2309160194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1347 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By SAKINFORM Georgian news agency—TASS]

[Text] Tbilisi September 23 TASS—Peace in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone is a historical necessity, Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze told a meeting of the republican parliament today. In his words, peaceful settlement has been chosen and it must be achieved despite any difficulties. "Georgia must keep Abkhazia by all means," he stressed.

In the opinion of Eduard Shevardnadze, they need resolute actions in all areas, including "politics, diplomacy and a military element of the political process which is, possibly, the decisive factor at the current stage". Estimating his Sochi and Novy Afon meetings with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Abkhazian leader Vladislav Ardzinba, Shevardnadze said they are historical as well.

"I have an impression that the sides can bring their stands closer. It may happen only on condition of active Russian participation, its special role and interested assistance of the United Nations and friendly nations to this process," said Shevardnadze.

He noted with satisfaction that the Russian president and officials support the idea of Georgian territorial integrity and the policy of the Georgian authorities to settle the conflict.

Abkhaz Takeover of Kodori Gorge Denied

LD2609082594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0723 GMT 26 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tengiz Pachkoriya]

[Text] Tbilisi, 26 Sep—Georgian Defense Minister Lieutenant General Vardiko Nadibaidze has denied reports by Abkhazian news agencies that Kodori Gorge will be controlled by the Abkhazian militia. Speaking on republican television late on Sunday evening [25 September], he said that when the remaining Georgian military equipment in Kodori Gorge is completely destroyed, the area will be controlled by the Russian peacekeeping forces.

The minister said the Georgian side has almost completed the withdrawal of its armed formations and equipment from Kodori Gorge in line with the quadrilateral agreement of 14 May. He said that the only equipment Georgia is still keeping in the gorge are three howitzers, one tank and two IFVs which are to be destroyed in the gorge.

Abkhaz Official on Talks With Shevardnadze

NC2309131994 Yerevan SNARK in English 0739 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Sukhumi, September 22 (SNARK)—"Last events, took place in Abkhazia, make us to revise our attitude towards peace-keeping forces",—said today Chairman of Abkhazian Supreme Soviet Vladislav Ardzinba, appearing on Abkhazian television.

Addressing leadership of peace-keeping forces, Ardzinba said that "if such provocations are repeated, problem of advisability of peace-keeping forces' stay in Abkhazia will appear".

Referring the results of negotiations with the Head of Georgian Government, took place in Novi Affon, Ardzinba mentioned that "the meeting was constructive and useful. However attempt of Shevardnadze to impose status of autonomous republic to Abkhazia looks funny". According to Ardzinba, "if Georgian side is interested in mutual relations with Abkhazia, it will be necessary to develop contractual relations".

Shevardnadze Discusses Armed Forces Development

LD2409185594 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1620 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] [No dateline as received]—Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze has met the leadership of the Georgian Defense Ministry. The meeting discussed problems relating to the building of the country's Armed Forces. Defense Minister Vardiko Nadibaidze and his deputy Razhden Bitsadze noted with regret that servicemen are deprived of basic means of subsistence. Barracks and military airfields have been looted and destroyed. There is an acute shortage of fuel. Military hospitals require attention.

The head of state listed crucial questions that had to be addressed despite the current crisis in the country. He entrusted heads of relevant ministries and agencies with putting forward constructive proposals, which would be examined at a meeting to be held in the next few days.

Turkmenistan Cuts Supplies of Natural Gas

LD2309170694 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1500 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Due to technical and other reasons, Turkmenistan completely cut off the natural gas supply to Georgia as of 23 September. This has left most of the customers without gas. The Sakgazi [Georgian gas] department is forced to supply gas only to facilities of vital importance. As soon as the situation improves, the Sakgazi department will take appropriate measures to restore the normal gas supply to all of its customers.

Foreign Debt Totals $800 Million

LD2309145194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1240 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi September 23 TASS—Georgia's foreign debt has been growing rapidly, especially in the past three years. It has already reached 800 million U.S. dollars. Two hundred millions from this sum have accrued from overdue payments for credits. Local experts believe that Georgia will be unable to settle its accounts with foreign creditors in the foreseeable future.

This pessimistic forecast is based on the fact that the national income this year, for instance, is 50 per cent smaller than in 1993. Moreover, the catastrophic tendencies in the Georgian economy are continuing to grow.

Black Sea States Meet in Tbilisi

LD2509181894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1748 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By GIA correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Tbilisi September 25 TASS—The countries of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization met in a conference on Sunday to discuss issues related to environmental protection and the use of nature.

The three-day conference in the Georgian capital Tbilisi is attended by delegations from the region's eleven countries, representatives of environmentalist programs, members of U.N. Commissions, the European Union and other international organizations.

Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze sent a greeting message to participants in the forum. He is convinced that a singled and coordinated approach should be developed to protect the environment and to properly use the Black Sea region's natural resources.

Latvia

Ulmanis, Birkavs Take Part in UN General Assembly

LD2509171494 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1600 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] State President Guntis Ulmanis and Foreign Minister Valdis Birkavs are continuing their visit to the United States of America where they are taking part in the UN General Assembly [UNGA].

Ulmanis will listen to speeches by U.S. President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, and will have a dinner together with UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali at the UN headquarters tomorrow [26 September]. Participation in a reception held by Bill Clinton is scheduled for the president in the evening. He will also meet Romanian President Ion Iliescu and Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

Guntis Ulmanis will address the UN General Assembly on Tuesday afternoon. In his speech, the president will touch on problems that have come about in Latvia after the withdrawal of Russian troops. [Words indistinct] (?will also stress) consequences of the Soviet occupation, including the large number of Russian-speaking residents. Even before the departure for New York, Guntis Ulmanis said that a meeting between him and Boris Yeltsin was possible. However, both sides are not specifically preparing for it.

Official Returns From U.S. Trip, Denies Aid Link

WS2609095294 Tallinn BNS in English 0754 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] Riga, Sep 22, BNS—The relations between Latvia and the United States will continue to develop, Latvian Foreign Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Martins Virsis said Thursday on return from an American trip.

During the visit, Virsis and Foreign Ministry State Secretary Maris Riekstins met with officials at the U.S. State Department, the Defense Department and the National Security Council. The talks focused on the situation in the Latvian security policies and foreign policies following the visit of U.S. President Bill Clinton to the Baltic country and the withdrawal of Russian troops.

The U.S. State Department has set up a work party to deal with issues of U.S.-Latvian interstate contacts, Riekstins said. A similar group will be created in Latvia soon, including officials of the foreign, interior, communication and defense ministries.

In Virsis' words, the U.S. official circles reiterated that the United States does not change its foreign policy regarding Latvia. Virsis described the WASHINGTON TIMES publication of Sept. 6 hinting at the enclosure of the Baltic states into Russia's sphere of interests as "a bureaucratic error."

Commenting on an alleged a link between the U.S. pledged 10- million-dollar support for Latvia and ratification of the Latvian- Russian troop withdrawal treaty in the Latvian parliament, Virsis declined the existence of "a direct link," admitting, however, that the move would give additional guarantee that the United States follows up the promise.

Latvia should ratify the agreement with Russia because otherwise Latvia and international organizations would be unable to supervise the functioning of the Russian-operated radar station at Skrunda, Virsis said.

Lithuania

Diplomatic Relations Established With Georgia

LD2509162094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1347 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Lithuania established diplomatic relations with Georgia last week, the press service of the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry said.

The former Lithuanian parliament (Supreme Soviet) recognized Georgia as a sovereign state in December 1991. However, most of Lithuanian parliamentarians urged then not to rush with establishing diplomatic relations explaining this by the unstable situation in Georgia at that time. Only this summer did the Lithuanian parliament's delegation visit Tbilisi. After their return from Georgia Lithuanian parliamentarians spoke in favor of establishing diplomatic relations with this country.

Head of the Lithuanian parliamentary delegation, the parliament's Chancellor Neris Germanas said the establishment of diplomatic relations would not only display support of Georgia's sovereignty on the part of Lithuania but would also contribute to Lithuanian goods receiving a wider access to the Georgian market.

The press service of the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry said that Georgia was the 97th country with which Lithuania had established or re-established diplomatic relations.

Russian Navy Calls Off Planned Exercises

WS2609093694 Tallinn BNS in English 0751 GMT 26 Sep 94

[Text] Vilnius, Sep 23, BNS—In response to Lithuania's negative reaction, the Russian navy decided to call off firing practice in the Lithuanian economic zone of the Baltic Sea. Russia's Baltic Sea Fleet announced earlier this month that missile firing practice would be held in the Baltic Sea Sept. 26-29.

In a report to the Lithuanian Defense Ministry, Russian navy officials warned about "slight chances" of debris falling down in Lithuanian territorial waters after missiles are shot down. The Russian military also requested to warn Lithuanian navigation and aviation authorities that the area must be avoided during the exercise.

The information aroused sharp protests from the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry, defense officials, as well as transportation and environmental protection authorities.

Lithuanian Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius informed the Russian Baltic Sea Fleet that the intended practice would seriously harm Lithuania's economic interests, because fishing and civil navigation would have to be suspended in the exercise area.

Lithuania's top daily LIETUVOS RYTAS said the Lithuanian Defense Ministry received a reply from the Baltic Sea Fleet headquarters Thursday, saying that "dangerous activities will not be carried out in the Lithuanian economic zone."

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.